FBIS DAILY REPORT

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NOTE TO UK OUTLINES PROPOSALS FOR TALKS

PY131306 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1150 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 13 Mar (DYN) -- In its response to the British note proposing the resumption of commercial contacts between the two countries, severed since April 1982, Argentina has asked for the demilitarization of and the end to the exclusion zone, and expressed its concern over the installation of nuclear elements in the Malvinas Islands. The Argentine note also reiterates the need to continue negotiations between the two countries in search of a final solution to the problem of sovereignty over the South Atlantic islands.

The Argentine response, now under consideration by the Margaret Thatcher administration, was presented in London through the Brazilian Embassy in Great Britain and it was published here today by the newspaper AMBITO FINANCIERO. The complete text of the document reads as follows:

"I have the honor of requesting Your Excellency to forward the following document to the British Government.

"Inspired by its desire for peace, the Argentine Government promotes the contacts which may trigger an initial exchange of ideas leading to the timely beginning of concrete negotiations. A realistic analysis of relations between Argentina and the United Kingdom shows us that these concrete negotiations must include the vital issue of sovereignty in order to come to a final solution to the dispute. These negotiations on the sovereignty over the Malvinas, South Georgia, and South Sandwich Islands must be held within the framework of the UN resolutions and with the participation of the UN secretary general, as provided for by these resolutions. An overall negotiation as proposed by the Argentine Government would also take into consideration the interests of the inhabitants of the islands, and the issue concerning economic, scientific, and technological cooperation in the area.

"It must be clearly established that the Argentine Government wants to eliminate the obstacles that thwart normalization of relations between the two countries, and understands that the objective of this normalization is the return to the prewar situation in all its aspects. In this regard, the proposed plan does not change substantive aspects of those issues which were expressly confirmed in the Argentine-British joint communique signed on 26 April 1977. As may be recalled, the aforementioned communique was made known to the international community through the simultaneous notes presented to the United Nations in June 1977 by the permanent representatives of the Argentine Republic and the United Kingdom.

"The Argentine Government has with great interest examined the British Government's proposal of 26 January 1984 that proposes an agenda including the following points:

"a. The reciprocal lifting of restrictions on trade exchange between the United Kingdom and Argentina;

"b. The lifting of the financial restrictions currently in force;

"c. An agreement for the transfer of the bodies of Argentine citizens who died on the island or for their relatives to visit their graves;

"d. The reestablishment of air services between the two countries;

"e. The resumption of cultural, scientific, and sports contacts;

"f. To increase the level of official relations.

"The Argentine Government believes that the British initiative represents a positive step because it suggests the possibility of an exchange of viewpoints at an official level leading to the progressive normalization of relations between the two countries.

"Aware of the convenience to fully analyze these issues, the Argentine Government believes that other problems of undeniable importance existing between the two countries, and which require prompt attention, should also be included in the agenda. Therefore, it believes that the following subjects should be included:

"a. The lifting of the protection zone which the United Kingdom intends to establish in the South Atlantic; [as received]

"b. Termination of efforts to fortify the islands, of the building of the strategic airport, and of the concentration of military forces in the area; and,

"c. Guarantees that nuclear arms or devices will be withdrawn from this region.

"An agenda made up of the items proposed by Argentina and the United Kingdom would then permit talks to begin.

"The Argentine Government also wishes to convey to the United Kingdom the spirit with which it is prepared to deal with bilateral relations, thus the Argentine Government:

"1) Ascribes great significance to a lasting normalization of relations between Argentina and the United Kingdom.

"2) Believes that in order to achieve this it is indispensable -- and this is its desire -- to peacefully end the dispute over the Malvinas, South Georgia, and South Sandwich Islands.

"3) Fully agrees that for this the conditions and restrictions under which the two parties are now laboring should be taken into account.

"4) Also agrees that it is inconvenient to hold secret meetings, negotiations, or talks because one of the basic guidelines of its foreign policy is to keep the public informed in keeping with the democratic style which has been implemented in Argentina.

"5) Feels, nevertheless, that it would be unwise to stimulate improper publicity under the present circumstances.

"6) Believes that sincere and upright analysis, taking into account all the elements involved and enabling each party to have a clear picture of the future prospects for a formal negotiation, would be highly appropriate.

"7) Considers that, as has been stated before, the presence of UN peace forces on the islands in place of other military forces would help reestablish a better atmosphere in the area and will ensure the security of the population of the islands.

"8) Feels that in order to fulfill the strong will to close the schism between the two countries, the most advisable thing would be to hold, as a preliminary step, an open exchange of ideas, duly reporting the contents of this exchange to the UN secretary general. These informal talks would pave the way for subsequent negotiations to be held with the help of the UN secretary general, in keeping with the mandate he received from the UN General Assembly to provide his good offices.

"Yours Truly."

ARMY COMMAND HOLDS FIRST MEETING UNDER ALFONSIN

PY132005 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Excerpt] The Army High Command met at 0830 today. At the meeting, General Jorge Hugo Arguindeguy, chief of staff of the Army, gave instructions on the guidelines to be followed during the current military year. The meeting, which was attended by brigadier generals and colonels as commanders of Army units in the interior, was held at the Libertador Building. This is the first meeting held by the High Command of the Army since the constitutional government took power.

EX-DIRECTOR OF NAVY MECHANICS SCHOOL ARRESTED

PY132010 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] The Armed Forces Supreme Council has ordered the strict preventive custody of Rear Admiral Ruben Chamorro, former director of the Navy Mechanics School. This decision was disclosed at noon today by the secretary of the Supreme Council, Colonel Jorge Gonzalez Ramirez.

ALFONSIN RECEIVES INDIAN ENVOY, GANDHI NOTE

PY132000 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] This morning the Indian ambassador to Argentina delivered a message from Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, in her capacity as head of the Nonaligned Movement, to President Raul Alfonsin. The ambassador declined to disclose the contents of the message, but pointed out that its purpose is to strengthen contacts on international issues between the two democratic countries. He also said that during his meeting with President Alfonsin they discussed issues related to Indian President Zail Singh's upcoming visit to Argentina.

BRIEFS

AGREEMENT WITH COSTA RICA -- Buenos Aires, 10 Mar (TELAM) -- Foreign Minister Dante Caputo and Costa Rican Ambassador Roberto Morales Valle today signed a memorandum of understanding on cooperation between the two countries in the fields of energy planning, mining, and exploration of hydrocarbons. The memorandum provides for the travel to Costa Rica of Argentine technicians who will cooperate with Costa Rican technicians in solving the problems faced by Costa Rica in these fields. [Summary] [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0146 GMT 11 Mar 84 PY]

URUGUAYAN AMBASSADOR PRESENTS CREDENTIALS -- At noon today, President Raul Alfonsin received the credentials of Mateo Marques Sere, the new Uruguayan ambassador plenipotentiary to Argentina. The ceremony was held in the White Room of Government House. [Text] [Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 9 Mar 84 PY]

OFFICIALS DENY MILITARY PREPARING FOR COUP

Interior Minister Comments

PY131615 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1100 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Interior Minister Federico Alvarez Plata has stated that the Bolivian Armed Forces are oriented toward a democratic process, thus denying that they are engaged in destabilizing actions.

The minister also referred to the disagreements among the members of the Hernan Siles Zuazo's cabinet. Federico Alvarez Plata regretted the cabinet difficulties, pointing out that President Hernan Siles Zuazo is aware that a united view prevails in the cabinet.

The minister added that all the sectors in the country are calm because the government is confronting the people's economic problems.

General on Respect of Law

PY132322 Paris AFP in Spanish 1603 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] La Paz, 13 Mar (AFP) -- General Alfredo Villarroel Barja, commander in chief of the Bolivian Armed Forces, today asked that the Constitution and the law be respected in order to face intolerance, threats, coercion, and pressure, which seek to split Bolivians.

Alluding to the ongoing atmosphere of social and political tension that Bolivia is undergoing amid a serious economic crisis, Gen Villarroel stressed that only under a state of law, within the framework of the Constitution and the laws, will we find the appropriate way of strengthening democracy.

Gen Villarroel's speech highlighted the institutional line which prevails in the High Command of the Bolivian Armed Forces and apparently was meant as a response to recent reports on military preparations for a coup d'etat.

SENATOR SCORES FINANCE MINISTER, BANK CREDIT

PY132300 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1700 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Excerpts] Finance Minister Fernando Baptista Gumucio has given the national Senate an unsatisfactory report on the country's foreign debt. This comment was made to Panamericans by Oscar Zamora Medina, one of the senators who questioned the minister.

The senator said that according to the general information provided by the finance minister, the country's foreign debt now surpasses $5 billion. He added that this means every Bolivian, from the time he is born, owes about $1,000, and that the foreign debt has served to enrich a few and not the majority of the Bolivian people.

He also said that the $200 million credit through the Bank of America cannot be approved without the endorsement of the legislative branch, and that the national treasury cannot be compromised without the previous endorsement of one of the government branches.

[Begin Zamora recording] If the executive branch is going to negotiate, ratify, or implement this agreement with the Bank of America it will have to answer to Congress because it will violate the national Constitution. I should also point out that the Bank of America is not acting as a client in favor of the national economy or to help Bolivia. What the Bank of America wants is to take part of this money, which is going to be granted through Argentina, as payment of the debt which Bolivian private banks have with the Bank of America. Therefore, in this manner we would be providing state resources for the payment of debts of the private sector at a time when the Bolivian economy is going through difficult times. This is why we have emphasized that under no circumstance can this agreement be approved without the previous endorsement of Congress, unless someone wants to violate the Constitution and answer to Congress. I would like to reiterate that the Bank of America is behind the agreement becaus what the bank wants above all is to use part of this money as payment of the debt which Bolivian private banks have with the Bank of America. [end recording]

BRIEFS

NEW POLICE CHIEF -- Colonel Mario Rada Fernandez yesterday took his oath as the new police commander general, replacing General Mario Teran. [Summary] [La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 28 Feb 84 p 2 PY]

NEW GOVERNMENT UNDER SECRETARIES -- Ronald (Anteba) and Juan Carlos Calderon today took office as the new under secretaries for industry and commerce, respectively. [Excerpt] [La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 13 Mar 84 PY]

1983 GAS OUTPUT -- According to statistical data furnished by YPFB [Bolivian Government Oil Deposits] its gas output in 1983 declined by 9.818 billion cubic feet. It also reported that the total gas output in 1983 reached 178.058 billion cubic feet. [Excerpt] [La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 13 Mar 84 PY]

DIRECT ELECTIONS ISSUE REPORTEDLY DIVIDING PDS

PY132325 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1600 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Reporter Carlos Rodrigues will now tell us about the meeting that will be held this afternoon between the president and the vice president of the Republic at Planalto Palace, where the authorities do not seem to agree on the direct election issue.

[Begin Rodrigues relay from Brasilia] Vice President Aureliano Chaves will hold a special meeting this afternoon with President Figueiredo at Planalto Palace. Chaves said he is going to exchange ideas with the president on matters that could emerge in the trip he is going to make to the United States this coming weekend.

Although the vice president has not given any indication on the political matters that could be discussed, the meeting with President Figueiredo is being awaited with great expectation.

The direct election issue is dividing the government. This is the opinion of important PDS [Social Democratic Party] leaders and of political observers. A faction of the liberal trend led by Civilian Household Chief Leitao de Abreu, the main political coordinator of the government, defends the reestablishment of direct elections for president in 1988. He is also supported by the PDS leader in the Chamber of Deputies, Nelson Marchezan, who is the leader of the PDS liberals and supports the candidacy of Vice President Aureliano Chaves, in addition to moderate sectors of the opposition.

The other faction is led by an important adviser of President Figueiredo, SNI [National Intelligence Service] Director General Otavio Medeiros, who represents a more conservative trend within the PDS. This trend wants direct elections for president only in 1990. Gen Medeiras is supported by followers of Paulo Maluf and Mario Andreaza.

While Leitao de Abreu, Deputy Marchezan, and sectors of the PDS defend the theory of a negotiated solution to establish direct elections, Gen Medeiros opposes this theory, only allowing direct elections for president in 1990.

President Figueiredo held a meeting last week with the political council, but apparently he has not achieved a consensus among his main advisers. [end relay]

FINANCE MINISTER TO HEAD TRADE MISSION TO PRC

PY140000 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 13 Mar 84 p 13

[Excerpt] Brasilia -- A Brazilian delegation headed by Finance Minister Ernane Galveas will leave on 16 March for the PRC, where it will try to sign contracts for the sale of $300-$400 million worth of steel products. This information was provided yesterday by Tarcisio Marciano da Rocha, head of the Foreign Advisory Office of the Finance Ministry. According to Da Rocha, this trip will be the first move in a Brazilian trade offensive in the Far East (PRC, Iran, and Pakistan) and Latin America (Venezuela and Mexico), seeking to increase total steel exports by 10 percent to reach the $1.5 billion mark in 1984, despite the surcharges the United States has just imposed on Brazilian steel products.

DEL VALLE: SAFE-CONDUCT TO BE GIVEN MIR REFUGEES

PY140220 Paris AFP in Spanish 1544 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Santiago, 13 Mar (AFP) -- The incident between Chile and the Vatican over four leftist refugees who took asylum at the nunciature in Santiago 57 days ago will be solved next week, it was stated today by official sources. The government of General Augusto Pinochet has thus far refused to honor Pope John Paul II's petition to issue safe-conducts to the refugees, who are members of the outlawed Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR), so they can leave the country.

Yet Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle has said that the safe-conducts will ultimately be issued and denied reports about the possibility that the refugees would be expelled from Chile by decree. We have to wait and see what step is taken next, Del Valle said. He indicated that a solution could be found next week with the departure of the group to Ecuador or to any other country which would agree to receive them.

The Chilean authorities have charged the four refugees, two of whom are women, with being involved in the attack in which General Carol Urzua Ibanez, his driver, and bodyguard were killed on 30 August 1983.

FAST, MARCH FOR ALMEYDA RELEASE ANNOUNCED

PY131705 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0409 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Santiago, 12 Mar (EFE) -- Jaime Inzunza, secretary general of the Democratic and Popular Movement (MDP), today announced that next Thursday and Friday there will be a "national fast" and a "march to the prison" demanding the release of MDP President Manuel Almeyda. Inzunza explained that the fast and the march have been called by the "Committee for Solidarity With Manuel Almeyda" and that "the committee will begin fasting at 2000 on Thursday." He announced that the fast will end on Friday with a lengthy "mass visit" to Almeyda in prison, followed by a protest march around the prison.

Meanwhile, Luis Hermosilla, state prosecutor of the Appellate Court of Santiago, today asked that Almeyda be sentenced for the maximum prison term of 606 days: 541 days "for advocating subversion and the overthrow of the government" and 61 days [figures as received] for "calling a national stoppage."

Almeyda has been in a Santiago public prison since 15 February on orders of appellate court Judge Osvaldo Faundez.

SOCIALIST SEEKS ASYLUM AT COSTA RICAN EMBASSY

PY132240 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1715 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Excerpts] Chilean Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle has reported that Cecilia Suarez, the daughter of former Government Secretary General Jaime Suarez, has requested asylum at the Costa Rican Embassy.

Costa Rican Ambassador Fabio Cruz will discuss the issue with Foreign Minister Del Valle in a meeting they are scheduled to hold tomorrow.

The Chilean foreign minister noted that he received all the pertinent reports on the case today and that he will review them tomorrow, but added that so far no safe-conduct request has been submitted.

[Paris AFP in Spanish at 2119 GMT on 13 March reported that Costa Rican Ambassador Fabio Cruz has officially requested that the Chilean Government issue safe-conduct papers for Socialist Party member Cecilia Suarez, who took refuge at the Costa Rican Embassy on Monday.]

'Marxist' Faces Arrest Warrant

PY132350 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Excerpt] A well-known Marxist activist identified as Cecilia Suarez has requested asylum at the Costa Rican Embassy in Santiago. This was disclosed by Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle, who added that a Santiago military court has issued a warrant for her arrest for her involvement in violent activities.

NATIONAL VANGUARD MOVEMENT SCORES SCHOOL EVENTS

PY131707 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] The National Vanguard Movement [Movimiento de Avanzada Nacional] has scored the incidents that occurred at the (Montesol) School, where a political group of the Socialist Party maintained an arsenal and equipment to print subversive propaganda. In a press communique, the Movement reported this extremely serious event and repudiated the fact that the terrorist cell was headed by the school's director.

The Movement added that Director Juan de Dios Gutierrez is second in line to Dr Manuel Almeyda, president of the so-called Democratic and Popular Movement. The National Vanguard Movement concluded by stating that both Gutierrez and Almeyda were the main instigators of the peaceful protest that was called by the Democratic Alliance. The Movement urged the workers and the people in general not to be deceived by the organizers of protests.

CARABINEROS ARREST 3 MIR MEMBERS IN SANTIAGO

PY131526 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Three members of the illegal Movement of the Revolutionary Left [MIR] have been arrested by Carabineros after they attacked a van at the Maipu City Hall in the southwestern part of Santiago. The extremists also painted political slogans on walls and threw pamphlets around together with four other individuals still in hiding. The detainees were identified by police sources as Patricio del Carmen Vargas Pinto, Sandro Escobar Galves, and Oscar Alejandro Martinez Fuentes, all 20 years old.

The sources said that the individuals formed part of a MIR paramilitary group which was allegedly responsible for the attacks carried out in Maipu over the past few days. The MIR group is accused of stopping a group of municipal workers who were painting the wall of a hospital for alcoholics. The extremists, who were armed with pistols and had their faces covered with balaclavas, compelled the workers to stop working. They also sprinkled a municipal van with gasoline and set it afire, completely destroying it. Before fleeing, the criminals painted political slogans on the walls of the hospital and they threw subversive pamphlets around. However, the three were arrested by Carabineros during an operation carried out near Villa Francia.

REPORT ON BREAKDOWN OF MUNICIPAL ELECTION VOTES

PA140257 Paris AFP in Spanish 1343 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Bogota, 13 Mar (AFP) -- The Liberals defeated President Belisario Betancur's Conservative Party in the municipal elections last Sunday by a 25 percent margin.

The conservatives had defeated the official Liberal Party in the May 1982 elections with Belisario Betancur as their presidential candidate.

The National Civil Registry has reported that with 4,747,388 votes counted, the results are as follows:

Liberals:

Official Liberal Party	1,945,776 votes
New Liberalism Movement	537,366
Liberal Alternative	143,746
Total:	2,626,888

Conservatives:

All Factions [Lista De Unidad]	1,836,602

Communists (left):

Democratic Front	103,552
MOIR [Revolutionary Independent Worker Movement] (Marxist-Leninist)	19,676
Total:	123,228

Independents:	160,670

Absenteeism -- 65 percent -- was the outstanding feature of the elections. There were 14.8 million Colombians registered to vote.

STRIKE IN NAPO-PASTAZA PROVINCE CAUSES LOSSES

PA132114 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] The strike that has been going on in Napo-Pastaza Province since last Friday has caused a loss of $244,000 in the hydrocarbons sector. More negative consequences are expected if the conflict worsens.

The Ecuadoran State Petroleum Corporation, CEPE, has been forced to suspend prospecting and drilling in the Ecuadoran Amazonian region, including the (Sacha) well, where CEPE is drilling a pre-cretaceous bed.

The country is losing $61,000 daily in drilling rig rental payments alone. It has become necessary to increase the number of flights to this area to maintain production.

In addition, Quijos Municipal Council President Edison Chavez has reported that the strike has been centered in Quijos. It is expected that a prompt solution to the strike decreed throughout the province will be found. Here are his comments:

[Begin recording] [Chavez] All activity has been suspended. Traffic on the main road leading to Baeza [words indistinct] has been halted. It has been said that foreigners have been disrupting order in the sector, and possibly have infiltrated the strike.

This strike has been centered in Quijos because of its strategic location. All cantons have delegations in Quijos. There is no solution to the problem in sight. (?I understand) that there is a government plan to resolve this conflict. I think that [words indistinct] in the course of this week.

[Unidentified reporter] What is the most difficult aspect to be solved?

[Chavez] It is a bill being drafted here. [Words indistinct] a plan to increase the participation of the Napo-Pastaza Province regional authorities, as well as those of Esmeraldas Province.

[Reporter] Won't this bill be an obstacle to a final solution of the problem?

[Chavez] I think that the government is familiar with the problem and will cooperate in finding a solution. [end recording]

CORRECTION TO NAPO STRIKE BECOMES MORE CRITICAL

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Napo Strike Situation Becomes More Critical," published in the 12 March Latin America DAILY REPORT on page G 1:

In the headline and throughout the item, change all references to "Napo Province" or to "Napo" to read "Napo-Pastaza Province" or "Napo-Pastaza," correcting name of province.

AIRPORT PERSONNEL CALL 'INDEFINITE' STRIKE

PY140240 Paris AFP in Spanish 1824 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Lima, 13 Mar (AFP) -- Peruvian airport personnel this morning called a general, indefinite strike to demand higher salaries. However, the required services are now being provided by technicians of the Peruvian Air Force. Newsmen have reported that international flights are normal at Lima airport, but that domestic flights are suffering long delays.

The state-owned Peruvian Corporation for Airports and Commercial Aviation, which manages air bases, has charged the workers with making outrageous demands which are triple the corporation's expected income for 1984.

LABOR MINISTER SEES HARM IN 22 MARCH STRIKE

PY131436 Lima Television Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Labor Minister Joaquin Leguis yesterday stated his opposition to the labor strike scheduled for 22 March and described the strike as political. At the end of a meeting with leaders of four labor confederations, he said that these organizations are trying to bring about some sort of co-government, a plan that is not provided for by any of the rules and regulations on which the current democratic government is based. Minister Leguis also said that he asked the union leaders to call off their intended strike.

[Begin recording] [Leguis] I have asked them to reconsider their decision, especially taking into account our situation because, as I am sure everyone knows, the prices of minerals are showing some signs of going up and a strike would harm national exports of these minerals. Meanwhile, agriculture requires all available efforts to reactivate production. Furthermore, we are on the verge of being able to export certain products such as textiles and others to pay off the Peruvian foreign debt.

The most important thing, however, the most outstanding aspect of this meeting I just held, was the strong suggestion I made to the labor confederations to avoid this stoppage -- if it takes place -- from being used, as it has been in the past, as a pretext to destroy private property, perpetrate acts of vandalism and attacks against forces of public order, disrupt tranquillity, and endanger the lives of the people.

[Unidentified reporter] In case the strike takes place, do you believe that it will be a total failure or a total success?

[Leguis] Look, I do not like to be a fortune teller because no one has a crystal ball. The final word is up to the workers whom, after all, this strike will affect most. [end recording]

Interior Minister Comments

PY131550 Lima Television Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] The government will implement strict security measures to protect the citizenry in view of the strike that the labor confederations have called for 22 March. Interior Minister Luis Percovich Roca said that protection will not be given to transport workers alone but to all citizens, because whenever a politically oriented strike is called, some workers do not go to work for fear that they will be attacked.

He went on to express his hope that common sense will prevail among labor leaders and that they will understand that an economic crisis cannot be overcome with strikes.

The interior minister made these remarks at Government House after a meeting with President Belaunde Terry. He told the president that the Directorate for Public Loans and the Foreign Debt Committee have approved the contracts for purchasing equipment for the police forces.

PEASANTS LEAVING RURAL AREAS IN AYACUCHO

PY131720 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Rural areas of Ayacucho Department are being abandoned by the peasants, who are emigrating elsewhere. Leonor Zamora, mayor of (Huamarga), has reported that agricultural activities are facing the worst crisis in history because of both harsh weather conditions and subversion.

[Begin recording] [Zamora] To some extent activities are normal in Ayacucho City district because even the curfew now lasts only from 0000 until 0500, so there is more time for activities.

[Unidentified reporter] What about the rural areas?

[Zamora] Well, as far as we know, because we do not live there, there are clashes. This is the news we have received, and there are also communiques reporting these clashes.

[Reporter] Under these circumstances, are agricultural activities still developing or are they stagnating?

[Zamora] Look here, I believe that agricultural activities are facing a severe crisis because the peasants are leaving their rural villages. The rains started very late in this part of the mountain region. There is too much poverty and, especially, there is too much fear. Fear of staying there because when the Shining Path people come they ask the peasants to provide support. Let us say that the peasants can give this support with, for example, food. They go ahead and give the subversives the food, the subversives leave, and the Army arrives and punishes those who gave support to the subversives. [end recording]

POLITICAL PARTIES DEBATE ELECTION ISSUES

PY140255 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] Leaders of the National Party [PN] have made demands on the Colorado Party [PC], but the PC has said that it does not accept demands. Hector Lorenzo Rios said that the PN executive board, as a body, did not make the demands, but that the PN leaders made them as individuals. Lorenzo added that the proposals made by PC leaders offering to accept elections with proscriptions violate the right of the voters and all the people who have the right and duty to freely elect their leaders.

PC member Luis Fierro Gamardela said that the PC does not accept demands because the party makes its own decisions and that it is clear in its definitions. Therefore, it does not permit demands. He added that the PC has at no time changed its commitments to the people, and that the party line has always been very clear.

COLORADO FACTIONS REPORTED SPLIT ON NOMINATIONS

PY132015 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Former delegates of the Colorado and Battlist Union will offer Luis Vasconcellos the presidential nomination, thus opposing the Sanguinetti-Tarigo ticket of the Colorado Party. This was announced this morning by the secretary general of the New Generation Movement of the Colorado Party. Carlos Orlando said that Vasconcellos has not been approached yet, but indicated that it is almost certain that the latter will accept the nomination. Orlando explained that a large sector of the Colorado Party is being displayed because it does not agree with the Sanguinetti-Tarigo-Pacheco Areco ticket. Orlando also confirmed his resignation from the faction led by Pacheco Areco and said that other delegates like Walter Santos and Daniel Barreiro also resigned.

AGRICULTURE MINISTER DENIES BEEF RATIONING PLAN

PY130201 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Agriculture Minister Carlos Mattos Moglia has denied reports leaked in the past few hours that it will be necessary to impose beef rationing because of the livestock shortage. Minister Moglia said that the government is not planning, for the time being, to adopt that sort of measure.

ULTIMAS NOTICIAS REAPPEARS AFTER 3-DAY BAN

PY131552 Madrid EFE in Spanish 04006 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Montevideo, 13 Mar (EFE) -- The evening daily ULTIMAS NOTICIAS today reappeared after complying with the 3-issue ban ordered by the military government. The pretext used by the government to ban the daily was a report that the banned leader of the National, or Blanco, Party would be politically rehabilitated.

ULTIMAS NOTICIAS came back with a special edition that included an editorial which stated that "rather than restricting our right to inform, the ban has restricted our readers' right to be kept informed."

In less than 3 years the Uruguayan military regime has temporary closed down some 20 news organs.

ILLUECA REJECTS RUMORS OF POSSIBLE COUP

PA131537 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 13 Mar 84 p 10C

[Report by Vladimir Sandoval]

[Text] President Dr Jorge E. Illueca today denied to LA PRENSA that a military coup might be staged if the opposition alliance led by three-time President Dr Arnulfo Arias Madrid wins the 6 May presidential elections, as has been suggested by rumors that are circulating both here in Panama and abroad. "There is no coup. We have reached a very fraternal understanding and we are almost sure that this will not happen," Illueca stressed.

The rumors gained strength after Arias Madrid himself told DIARIO DE LAS AMERICAS during a brief stay in Miami that "if a coup is being plotted against me, it would have to be staged before the elections, not after."

According to Illueca, no coup can take place because the essential thing is to preserve the climate of social peace that exists in Panama. He added that he guarantees that the presidential elections in May and June will be completely honest, that the laws and rules of the game will be respected, and that whoever obtains the votes will be elected.

On another subject, when asked about the charge recently leveled by Christian Democratic Party Vice President Guillermo Cochez that his government is not being neutral in the electoral campaign because, according to Cochez, state funds and communications media -- Radio Nacional and the ERSA newspapers -- are being used and manipulated to sell the official candidates' image, the president responded that he did not know why he was receiving that complaint now, after the same charge had been made at the Electoral Tribunal. "The fact is that he has already approached the Electoral Tribunal; I don't know why he is sending me a letter now, when he has already contacted the tribunal," Illueca commented briefly.

COSTA RICAN PRESIDENT MONGE CONFIRMS VISIT PLANS

PA132235 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1730 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge has confirmed that he will arrive in David, Chiriqui Province, on 16 March to inaugurate the International Fair of San Jose de David. President Monge will stay in our country until 18 March, during which time he will discuss bilateral issues with Panamanian Government representatives. President Monge will be accompanied by the minister of economy and public works and the minister of transportation.

U.S. MILITARY BASE REPORTEDLY UNDER CONSTRUCTION

PA140028 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 13 Mar 84 p 1

[Report by Wilfi Jimenez and Jose Quintero de Leon]

[Text] The peasants of Mariato, in Montijo District on the Pacific coast of Veraguas Province, have reported the possible construction of a U.S. military base. They told LA PRENSA about unusual movements of U.S. troops and equipment throughout the area.

The sources said that continuous movement of U.S. Army helicopters and heavy machinery has been observed in the past 3 weeks, while mobile units of the Panamanian Defense Forces are patrolling local roads with unusual frequency.

According to the residents, more than 500 Americans are "building a big military base" at some point between Mariato and Rio Quebro. The residents have observed many "big and heavy crates" being transported by twin-propeller helicopters and more than 100 huge military transport trucks. The peasants said that the U.S. soldiers offered them "military civic action" for the construction of roads, latrines, and other community projects. In exchange, the soldiers asked the peasants to stay away from the "base."

Many tourists who attended the Cristo de Atalaya religious festivities, meanwhile have told LA PRENSA that they passed long convoys of U.S. military trucks that were heading toward the provinces on the Inter-American Highway.

Several technicians from Military Engineering (G5 General Command) have told LA PRENSA unofficially that the U.S. military operation includes the construction of a road that will link the isolated area of Veraguas, which is presently accessible only by air or sea, with Quebro, but they did not say anything about the conspicuous traffic of helicopters and military vehicles or the arrival of large trucks carrying U.S. troops, which have been seen by the residents of Mariato.

Efforts by LA PRENSA to obtain information from the Southern Command Information Office were fruitless because Colonel William Hansen, spokesman for the Southern Command, was not available. Errol Friedman, the officer of duty, however reported that Officer Bill Ormsby, of the 193d Infantry Brigade stationed at Fort Clayton, or the Panama Defense Forces could supply us with all the information on those operations.

The efforts of LA PRENSA reporters to obtain an official report from the Defense Forces Public Relations Office, however, were again fruitless. We were told that Major Edgardo Lopez Grimaldo, chief of the Defense Forces Public Relations Office, was too busy to see us, despite the fact that he knew what the report was about.

At the same time, an ACAN-EFE cable reported last night that a contingent of 2,500 U.S. troops was being airlifted from Panama to the Honduran-Salvadoran border in an operation called "Emergency-Alert." According to the cable, the troops belong to the 193d Infantry Brigade stationed at Fort Clayton and to the 82d Airborne Division from North Carolina, which sends contingents of men to Panama for jungle survival training each month.

The ACAN-EFE dispatch indicates that when Col Hansen, chief of the Southern Command [title as published], was asked about the troops' destination, he said that he could neither acknowledge nor deny the reports about the departure of those troops.

Officer Friedman indicated that the 193d Infantry Brigade was in charge of the reported operation in Montijo, and that the U.S. 82d Airborne Division is the same one that took part in the Grenada invasion. His statements tend to confirm reports that a big U.S. military base will be established in southern Veraguas to defend the Panama Canal in view of the intensification of the Central American conflict and the possible danger that it represents to that waterway.

Foreign Minister Denies Report

PA140317 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] The Foreign Ministry has denied that a U.S. military base is under construction in the southern area of Veraguas Province. Foreign Minister Oyden Ortega explained the situation:

[Begin recording] [Ortega] There is a road project for the southern area of Veraguas Province in which the National Defense Forces, the U.S. Army National Guard, civic organizations, and the Public Works Ministry are jointly participating. It is a coordinated operation to build a road, not a military base. I also wish to point out the fact that community members who are actively participating in the project were the ones who asked for this road. The rumors of a military base, therefore, are false. No one is building a military base. It would be impossible to do so without a previous agreement, without negotiations. None of what has been said is true. The only military bases on our territory are those mentioned in the Torrijos-Carter Treaty, and they are the only military bases in Panama.

[Unidentified reporter] Despite the recent invasion of Grenada and the Central American conflict, the rumors of a military base under construction are absolutely false?

[Ortega] Yes, they are wholly incorrect. The men who are participating in this project do not bear arms, except the National Defense Forces members. The Foreign Ministry wishes to express that the reports are absolutely false. [end recording]

BRIEFS

DENI CONFISCATES COCAINE -- National Department of Investigation (DENI) agents and Finance Ministry officials confiscated 3 kilos of cocaine from Manuel Jose Garcia Bustamante on 28 February upon his arrival at the Omar Torrijos Herrera International Airport from Medellin, Colombia. The cocaine is valued at $500,000 on the U.S. market. [Summary] [Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 2 Mar 84 p 12-B PA]

COSTA RICA

MONGE CITED ON STATUS OF CUBAN CONSULATE

PA140001 San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 2 Mar 84 p 2

[Text] Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge has told LA REPUBLICA that a Cuban consulate will not be reinstated in San Jose. The consulate operated for a large part of President Carazo's administration. During the first days of Monge's administration, the Cubans began attempts to reopen the consulate. The topic was brought up some months later and President Monge was asked about it yesterday. He said: "We have not considered the reinstatement of that consulate in San Jose." The presidential statement clearly defines the matter of the Cuban consulate, because communist news media have circulated rumors that the consulate would be opened again.

EL SALVADOR

CCE ON CHANGES IN REPORTING ELECTION RESULTS

PA131922 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] The Central Electoral Council [CCE] this morning held a press conference for local and foreign correspondents. The CCE released important information about the elections that are scheduled for 25 March. The members of the CCE told YSU that they have 2,520,978 potential voters registered and expressed the hope that 90 percent of this number will actually vote. If they do, 2,300,000 people will be casting their ballots on 25 March.

The CCE added that approximately 6,808 ballot boxes will be distributed throughout the country. In San Salvador alone, there will be 44 places where residents will be able to vote. The CCE also declared that participation in the elections will not be possible in 20 municipalities throughout the country, and added that the entire process will only be possible if the Armed Forces guarantee safety.

The CCE members announced that 133,000 duplicate identification cards were nullified in a purge of the electoral registry. As an example for the press, the CCE members revealed that Ana Guadalupe Martinez, an FMLN commander, had three identification cards. The CCE added that they are ready for the 25 March elections and that the cost of the elections will be 16 million colones.

Here is Dr Jorge Alberto Hernandez, a member of Democratic Action and of the CCE, commenting on the elections:

[Begin Hernandez recording] My fellow members of the CCE have already expressed gratitude for the opportunity that we have again been given to talk to the Salvadoran people about the approaching elections, which are practically at our door. The CCE is very satisfied with the work that has been done so far; we are nearly ready to provide the Salvadoran people with the opportunity to express their will in a free and sovereign manner, with sufficient guarantees that their desires will be respected.

This press conference is very significant because it is important to create an awareness within the media about the important role that they play in the democratization process in this country. It is also necessary that the Salvadorans be kept informed, and the CCE has already prepared the means by which the people will be informed as to how the elections are going on 25 March, and how the votes are counted.

There are some differences in the electoral law from previous elections, and it is necessary that the Salvadoran people know and fully understand them, so that they can avoid misunderstanding and speculation both on and after election day, when this council will be counting the votes.

The fact is that the temporary electoral law that was recently approved by the Legislative Assembly included changes from the previous electoral laws. I am referring specifically to the fact that in the past -- for the people's information -- the committees receiving the votes used to send unofficial telegrams to the common council with the results of the elections, prior to sending official results on the day of the elections. This time, from the moment of its inception, when it was being discussed at the interparty commission, the electoral law has specified, in order to guarantee honesty, that everything related to the elections will be under the total and absolute control of the electoral organizations, specifically the CCE. This means that the customary telegram has been eliminated by the current electoral law. The CCE is the only authority that will give the official results of the 25 March elections at the earliest opportunity. If these official results are delayed for a short time, it will be for the reason just noted, that the unofficial telegrams have been eliminated. Meanwhile, the political parties will probably be free to give results, but only in accordance with the counts made by each party, which will not be considered official. In other words, this council expects the political parties to once again meet the patriotic responsibility that this moment in history has imposed on them by informing the public of the results that they themselves have obtained while refraining from making proclamations and carrying out other activities that fall exclusively within the purview of the CCE. The CCE, according to the law, will also be able to advance unofficial, partial results obtained from the municipal electoral committees.

I emphasize this point, because it is a change from previous electoral laws; in other words, the CCE wants the Salvadoran people to know this, and to know that further details of the process and the points that I have mentioned will later be provided through the media. However, I want it to be clear henceforth that the announcement of the official results is the exclusive responsibility of the CCE, after all of the election certificates from all of the ballot boxes or voting tables all over the country have been tabulated. [end recording]

CLASHES, LACK OF ELECTRICAL SERVICE REPORTED

PA132326 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] The following is information from the interior of the country, mainly from eastern El Salvador Department:

Three guerrillas were killed and one was captured by the Army during clashes in northern Morazan yesterday morning. According to sources from the Lempa River Hydroelectric Executive Commission, CEL, San Miguel is again without electricity.

The Armed Forces Press Committee, COPREFA, has reported the capture of a guerrilla in the clashes yesterday in Villa de San Isidro, 194 km east of the capital. The military report adds that the guerrilla surrendered an AR-15 rifle, ammunition clips, and ammunition; he said that he was a member of the People's Revolutionary Army, ERP, an armed front of the FMLN.

Military sources from the Armed Forces Commando Instruction Center, headquartered in San Francisco Gotera, the capital of Morazan Department, said that yesterday's clashes began at 0600, when approximately 100 guerrillas tried to seize Villa de San Isidro and the City of Osicala.

The sources added that some 500 soldiers came to the area to attempt to evict the rebels over a 5-hour period. The report says it was about noon when the rebels, noticing the numerical superiority of the government's forces, decided to withdraw.

Civilian sources and CEL employees likewise told Radio Cadena YSU that the City of San Miguel and its municipalities and cantons had again been left without electricity at 1000 Tuesday. The sources added that CEL teams have already been deployed to the area of the Cuscatlan Bridge, where the damage that caused the blackout occurred.

Civilian sources who were asked about the situation have reported that business, transportation, and school activities in San Miguel were continuing normally despite the lack of electricity. CEL employees added that electrical service might be restored within the next few hours.

In Chalatenango Department in the northern region military sources said no rebel harassment has been reported recently. Military sources in San Vicente said all was normal this morning, and that no rebels had been detected in the paracentral region.

FMLN CLAIMS FORCES CONFRONTING TROOPS AT BORDER

PA140149 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Attention, attention. Radio Venceremos announces that the dictatorship has begun its enemy operation in all the eastern areas of El Salvador with more than 5,000 of the dictatorship's soldiers participating. We repeat, the dictatorship has begun its enemy operation in eastern El Salvador with the participation of 5,000 Salvadoran Army soldiers, while Honduran troops are beginning to concentrate at the border and U.S. troops are expected to arrive in the area.

The Salvadoran dictatorship has begun this operation in the northeastern areas of the country. Our FMLN forces have also begun a plan to wear out the enemy troops.

Attention: Forces from the Rafael Arce Zablah Brigade began a plan to wear out the enemy troops and today, Tuesday, at 0545 they attacked enemy positions on Miracapa and San Marcos Hills, southeast of the town of Carolina, where Colonel Domingo Monterrosa was staying. During this attack we inflicted more than 10 casualties on the Cuscatlan Battalion.

Attention: Our military units have disrupted all the enemy advances. Our revolutionary forces have begun to bleed the dictatorship's troops. We also report that forces from the [words indistinct] detachment of the elite battalion, inflicting eight casualties [words indistinct]. Our FMLN forces are fighting in various areas of La Union, Morazan, and San Miguel Departments. [passage indistinct]

Following the imperialist plans, the Salvadoran dictatorship has begun an operation in the northeastern area of the country. Our revolutionary forces have already confronted this operation to attack and to disrupt all enemy advances and to inflict dead and wounded on the enemy in the northeastern area of the country. Our revolutionary forces are waging a struggle to defeat the new operations planned by U.S. imperialism. As we destroyed the enemy troops before, we shall do so again now. We have already begun to do so.

Forward FMLN soldiers who are fighting against the enemy in various areas of La Union, Morazan, and San Miguel. We will destroy this new enemy operation.

GUATEMALA

MEJIA VICTORES DISCUSSES STANCE TOWARD BELIZE

PA130437 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 10 Mar 84 p 2

[Text] General Oscar Humberto Mejia Victores, Guatemalan head of state, yesterday commenting on the persecution of Guatemalans in Belize said: My government will not take any aggressive action against Belizean territory. According to information coming from the border area of Melchor de Mencos, Peten, several Guatemalans have recently been expelled from Belize and others have been imprisoned.

The Guatemalan head of state was interviewed by a PRENSA LIBRE reporter in a corridor of the National Palace. He said that there is still no official report on what is taking place in Belize. It is also known that Belizean Prime Minister George Price has sought the support of the British troops stationed in Belize to strengthen the border, reportedly to avoid an aggression by the Guatemalan Army.

The head of state yesterday reasserted that his government will take no action against that country. I consider dialogue the best way to solve our differences, but our talks must be with England, he said.

SHOOTING INCIDENT REPORTED AT BELGIAN EMBASSY

FL140036 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0008 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] Guatemala, 13 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- The security forces at the Belgian Embassy in Guatemala today used gunfire to repel an attack by a group of persons who were shooting at a youth who entered the diplomatic building to flee from them, according to witnesses. After the incident, the Belgian Embassy refused to give any information about the youth, but a Guatemalan police chief said that a wounded person (?had been carried out). Another version reported that a funeral home had been called for a special service.

The attackers fled after the shooting and it has been reported that two employees of a furniture store, Gladys Calderon and Vilma de Zea, who witnessed the incident, have been taken hostage. According to witnesses of the shooting, a group of persons in two cars had chased a youth and opened fire on him. When the shots were heard, the Belgian Embassy security forces repelled the attack.

FORMER ARMY CHIEF ON MILITARY 'DISSATISFACTION'

PA131959 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 12 Mar 84 p 4

[Excerpts] General Manuel Benedicto Lucas Garcia, former Army chief of staff, yesterday said that there is a serious crisis in the Army and that it would be advisable to stamp it out. He also gave his opinion on why it was necessary to appoint a deputy head of state. The military officer was interviewed at his farm in Poptun, El Peten, where he has been farming since he was discharged as a result of the new military law.

The former chief of staff stressed: "I have never tried to stage a coup d'etat to overthrow General Mejia Victores' regime."

Several days ago, he emphasized, it was reported that several retired generals are trying to assassinate or overthrow the incumbent government. However, the way I see it, the government's press secretariat may have paid for this news to change the country's current situation for some unknown purpose. I was in Poptun when the news began to circulate. I have not traveled out of the country. My brother, former President Romeo Lucas, was also implicated. He was at his home at Fray Bartolome de las Casas at the time.

On the situation in Guatemala, he noted that violence has increased at an exaggerated pace. There is unrest in the country and it is clear that the authorities have not "been able to control it."

When questioned about the appointment of a deputy head of state, the position now held by Colonel Lobos Zamora, General Lucas said that the reason for the decision is very clear. The government feels "that there may be an attempt against its regime at any time and is thus taking precautionary measures, because the one who would probably rise to the position of head of state is Col Lobos Zamora." There is talk of a new coup throughout the country. I don't know who is hatching it and I don't know who the leader of the movement is. However, this may be the fundamental reason why Lobos Zamora was appointed the deputy head of state.

I think, Lucas Garcia explained, that the Constituent Assembly must call general elections no later than 1 January 1985, after drafting the specific laws. We must bear in mind that Guatemala is undergoing the most difficult time in its history. Hunger and uncertainty are visible is all parts of the country. There is dissatisfaction, and for this reason it is necessary that the country "return to constitutionality within a reasonable length of time."

As for the Army itself, Gen Lucas said: "The military institution is undergoing a grave crisis and it would be advisable to stamp it out." There is dissatisfaction among the officers. Many military men feel that discipline has been lost and, logically, this damages the Armed Forces, which must remain consolidated if they are to prevent the advance of communism. Military professionalism has been lost since 23 March 1982. I think that the time has come when the military must return to their barracks. Military men have no place in civilian institutions, for many of them are not even qualified for the posts that have been assigned to them.

FDP SUBMITS SIGNATURES REQUIRED FOR REGISTRATION

PA132021 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 10 Mar 84 p 2

[Text] The committee of the People's Democratic Force (FDP) yesterday submitted the signatures of 4,500 followers to the Citizens Registry, thus complying with this essential requirement for legalizing the FDP. FDP leader Francisco Reyes Ixcamey arrived at the Registry shortly before 1000, accompanied by several party members, and delivered the final pages that had been lacking, as other pages had been submitted previously. The FDP's final documentation was received by Citizens Registry Secretary Luis Enrique Cabrera.

On leaving the Registry offices, Reyes began to sing a song that he termed the FDP's song. Other party members joined him and a virtual rally was held at which Reyes Ixcamey said that his party will certainly gain power in the next elections. He added that he will file for the provisional registration of the FDP next week.

NICARAGUA

DANIEL ORTEGA ACCUSES U.S. OF STATE TERRORISM

PA131858 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1706 GMT 13 Mar 84

["Message from the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction of Nicaragua to the Nicaraguan people and the world," read by Junta Coordinator Daniel Ortega at Government House in Managua -- live]

[Text] From the very moment that the current U.S. Administration took over the U.S. Government in January 1981, Nicaragua has been the victim of escalating aggressive actions by this administration in the political, economic, and military spheres. In the political area, the defamatory campaigns launched against the efforts made by the people of Sandino are as well known as the sabotage of all international initiatives and efforts to seek a peaceful solution to Central America's problems, the intervention in the Nicaraguan people's domestic affairs, and the pressures exerted on governments that are friendly to Nicaragua and that give valuable cooperation and support to the material and moral reconstruction of Nicaragua's society.

All of these steps by the U.S. Administration have been an attempt to end the support that the international community has conscientiously given the Nicaraguan people's right to self-determination and independence, as the Nicaraguan people are determined to promote this revolutionary project within the framework of a society based on political pluralism, a mixed economy, and nonalignment.

The current U.S. Administration's actions in the economic area are also familiar. These actions have taken the form of boycotts, blocked and vetoed financing at international cooperation organizations, flagrant violations of international economic agreements, and commercial sabotage. All of these actions are quite familiar to the international community, and have been accompanied by a number of military attacks on our economy. The effects, in terms of losses in 1983 alone, amount to over 30 percent of the value of our exports that year, a situation that has driven Nicaragua to a state of economic emergency.

Above all else, the warmongering policy that the U.S. Administration has implemented in the region is well known. The virtual occupation of Honduras has turned that country into a huge U.S. military base already prepared for the launching of large-scale operations, using U.S. personnel and military supplies, against both El Salvador and Nicaragua. Alongside this military occupation of Honduras, the U.S. Government has not ceased for a single moment to organize, train, finance, and equip the counterrevolutionary bands through the CIA, installing operational bases and counterrevolutionary camps in Honduras with the complicity of sectors of the Honduran Army Staff and the acquiescence of the current Honduran Administration. They have also opened camps and operational bases in Costa Rica from which terrorist attacks are launched against the Nicaraguan people, with the U.S. Administration thus flagrantly violating the neutrality proclaimed by the government of that fraternal country.

In view of this situation, Nicaragua has on various occasions resorted to the international community, to the United Nations, to the UN Security Council, to the Nonaligned Movement, to the governments that comprise the Contadora Group, to the OAS, and to friendly governments and international political organizations to denounce these grave and unacceptable violations of international law and of the UN Charter.

The United States is not only a member of the United Nations, but also a permanent member of the Security Council, which is the foremost body charged with watching over world peace and security.

Nicaragua has also welcomed all of the initiatives proposed by third countries interested in a political resolution to the area's problems, and it has encouraged these initiatives. We have sought and fostered bilateral and multilateral contacts in search of a just solution, marked by respect and the law. At every turn, however, we have been met by the U.S. boycott and by its obstinance, applying pressure for a large-scale military confrontation in Central America and promoting a situation that it can neither control nor later on end. All of this is an intermediate step leading to its direct involvement.

On 6 March 1984, the border town of Santo Tomas de Nance was attacked with mortar fire from Honduras. The perpetrators of this attack are well known: the U.S. Government and its tools, the Honduran Army and the former Somozist guardsmen. The victim of this crime by the U.S. Administration was a 1-year-old girl, Teiris Carina Cardenas Rivera.

At a time when Nicaragua has begun the first free electoral process in its history, which will culminate in the election of executive and legislative branches in November of this year, the U.S. Government has requested the sum of $21 million from the U.S. Congress to continue its terrorist escalation of covert actions and thus to be able to continue killing little girls like Teiris Carina Cardenas Rivera. The U.S. executive branch has made this request at the outset of a new phase of armed attacks on economic and military objectives in Nicaragua, with its aftermath of victims among the Nicaraguan people.

It is no secret that the air and naval attacks launched against our fishing and patrol boats and port facilities, as well as the placement of mines at the entrances to the ports of El Bluff and Corinto, were directed and approved by CIA units based in Honduras and Costa Rica, and were supported by U.S. Army units based both in Honduras and in the so-called Panama Canal Zone. In their planning and execution, these terrorist actions demonstrate a dangerous jump in the technical sophistication of military equipment in Central America, especially at the outset of the attempted commercial blockade against Nicaragua in violation of international laws and rights of navigation.

These attacks are being intensified while the U.S. Administration transfers thousands of soldiers to Honduras and moves its warships toward Central America's coasts in what constitutes a threatening deployment of forces, staged only 5 months after the intervention in Grenada of those same military forces that they are today deploying to Central America.

Nicaragua charges that once again the U.S. Government is moving closer to possible military intervention in Central America, threatening the people of both El Salvador and Nicaragua. The pretext could not be any clumsier: It is allegedly guaranteeing, through its war supplies, the elections that are slated for El Salvador. This must be said: The danger of North American military intervention is present and seriously damages the efforts for peace and the advances being made within the Contadora framework.

The U.S. stand nourishes the warmongering tendencies of those who have never approved of a political resolution to the problems currently affecting the region and encourages those who desire a war with Nicaragua from Honduras.

We realize that at this point confidence in the negotiations and peace efforts is weakening. In view of this grave situation, the Nicaraguan Government urges all world governments, the United Nations, the Nonaligned Movement, the Contadora Group, and the U.S. people to demand from the U.S. Government:

1. That the troops and war supplies in the region be immediately withdrawn.

2. That the attacks on Nicaragua be immediately suspended.

3. That a search for a reasonable political resolution to the crisis in El Salvador be immediately undertaken.

4. That the search for resolutions to the problems with Nicaragua be seriously pursued.

As long as this situation remains unchanged and as long as the U.S. Government fails to take steps in favor of detente, to facilitate dialogue and the peaceful and political resolution of the crisis in the area, we neither can nor should foster false expectations of a political resolution, and the Nicaraguan people must continue to prepare and to strengthen themselves to confront and to defeat the imperialist aggressiveness and interventionism.

Upholding its right to defend the homeland's sovereignty and territorial integrity, the Nicaraguan Government urges the world's governments to assist the Nicaraguan people with whatever military and technical means are needed to defend themselves from the state terrorism unleashed by the U.S. Government against the Nicaraguan Government and people.

In the meantime, we will continue to make efforts on behalf of the institutionalization of the revolution and the strengthening of democracy. But let our aggressors know that our determination to defend our sovereignty, our homeland, and our revolution is just as inexhaustible as our earnest desire for peace.

Managua, 13 March 1984

After 50 Years, Sandino Lives! [applause]

Foreign Ambassadors Comment

PA140327 Paris AFP in Spanish 2046 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Managua, 13 Mar (AFP) -- Anthony Quainton, U.S. ambassador to Nicaragua, has denied that his government is encouraging military options for Central America, pointing out that "we support the initiatives of the Contadora Group." "Obviously, we continue to hope that together we can reach a political solution through Contadora," said the ambassador in commenting on a speech delivered today by Daniel Ortega, Sandinist government leader. Ortega said that the political solution to the Central American crisis "is receding" and made an "urgent" appeal for the world governments to provide arms for Nicaragua so that it can face an eventual invasion from the United States.

Soviet Ambassador German Shlyapnikov said that he hopes that international public opinion will both increase its support for the Sandinist revolution and "will condemn acts of provocation by the Reagan administration in Central America."

Mexican Ambassador Augusto Gomez warned that "we are facing another escalation of violence" promoted by sectors determined to cause a military confrontation in the area. He added that the political solution promoted by Contadora is a rational path for the resolution of the area's problems.

Venezuelan Ambassador Rafael Zapata said that the Contadora Group will certainly consider the proposal made by Ortega today. He added that this Group will continue to make efforts to achieve peace in the region.

PROTEST OVER HONDURAN BORDER ATTACKS REBROADCAST

PA131346 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Rebroadcast of "official protest note" sent by Acting Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco to Honduran Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica on 12 March, adding material to the version published in the 13 March DAILY REPORT]

[Text] Mr Edgardo Paz Barnica, secretary of foreign relations of Honduras:

I address Your Excellency to refer to the following developments:

On 10 March, at 0300, a patrol of 10 Honduran soldiers attacked the observation post of La Reforma, 5 km northwest of Somotillo, for 5 minutes. The same day, at 0900, a group of approximately 30 or 40 Somozist mercenaries -- acting together with members of the Honduran Army -- attacked with AK and FAL rifles the observation post of La Minita for approximately 1 hour. The observation post is 3 km northwest of Somotillo.

Likewise, yesterday, on 11 March at 2300, an undetermined number of Somozist mercenaries in Honduras near the sector of San Geronimo, acting in coordination with members of the Honduran Army, attacked with mortars and rifle fire the military installations in El Naranjo, located 4 km northwest of Somotillo.

The Nicaraguan Government presents its most formal and strongest protest over these attacks and insists once more on the Honduran Government's proven responsibility for the perpetration of these acts of provocation and aggression, which are contrary to the rules of international law. Likewise, it demands that the Honduran Government immediately cease such actions, which are part of the aggression being experienced by our country as a product of the Honduran Government's submissiveness to the U.S. Administration's plans, which seek to destroy the Sandinist people's revolution.

At 2325 on 11 March, an undetermined number of Somozist mercenaries came in from Honduras and tried to sabotage the electrical substation in Villanueva, 10 km southwest of Somotillo. They fired RPG-7 rockets but failed to hit their objective or to cause any damage.

In addition, at 1345 yesterday, 12 March, another group with an undetermined number of mercenaries who also came from Honduras blew up several electrical towers 2 km northwest of Somotillo, after which they returned to Honduras. It must be mentioned that these towers provided electricity exclusively to Honduras.

Upon presenting to Honduras Nicaragua's most formal and energetic protest over these most recent criminal actions, we call your attention to the destruction of the electrical towers, for on this occasion it is the Honduran people who are the most affected, and the principal responsibility for this criminal action falls to the Honduran Government, which tolerates and encourages these irrational actions.

I reiterate assurances of my consideration.

[Signed] Victor Hugo Tinoco, Acting Foreign Minister

PROTEST SENT TO COSTA RICA OVER BORDER ATTACKS

PA141329 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] The Nicaraguan Government yesterday sent a protest note to the Costa Rican Government because counterrevolutionary forces have been staging attacks and harassment operations against the Nicaraguan border posts at Penas Blancas, Los Chiles, and Papaturro from Costa Rica since 11 March. The protest note from the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry states that between 0700 and 0735 yesterday an undetermined number of mercenaries attacked the Nicaraguan border post at Penas Blancas from Costa Rica with mortars and M-79 grenade launchers. Border guardsman Donaldo Salvatierra Diaz was wounded in the attack.

The document adds that at 0545 on 12 March, 20 mercenaries harassed the Nicaraguan border post of Los Chiles, in Rio San Juan Department, from Costa Rica with rifles and M-79 grenade launchers. On 11 March, mercenary forces intermittently harassed the Papaturro border post beginning at 0600, the protest note adds.

In the note, the Nicaraguan Government once more reiterates its request that Costa Rica's authorities take the necessary steps to prevent and eradicate such actions. The note insists that mercenary forces at the service of the U.S. Government are bent on escalating campaigns of provocation against Nicaragua in order to affect the neutrality that the Costa Rican Government has proclaimed and to damage relations between the two peoples.

STATE COUNCIL DEBATES PARTIES' MEDIA ACCESS

PA131635 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] As of last night, the State Council had approved 119 articles of the electoral bill. The discussion on the electoral system was then suspended, so that Article 58, dealing with the use of news media during the electoral campaign, could be debated. Ivan Garcia, director of the Sandinist Television Network, and Jesus Miguel Blandon and Oscar Berrios from the People's Radio Broadcasting Corporation, CORADEP, attended the debates.

In response to Independent Liberal Party leader Dr Orlando Quinonez' argument that a 10-minute television spot for each party is insufficient, Commander Carlos Nunez, State Council president, suggested that the parties present specific proposals tomorrow morning.

It has also been reported that the State Council approved 26 articles of the electoral bill during yesterday's continuation of its seventh special meeting, which has lasted 13 days. Article 94 specifies that the elections will begin at 0700 and will end at 1800, unless citizens are still in line to vote. The voting stations, with their principle and alternate members, will be set up at 0600.

Article 99 specifies that there will be two ballot boxes at every station, one for votes for president and vice president and the other for votes for National Assembly representatives. Article 103 forbids the sale of alcoholic beverages, carrying weapons, drunkenness, and party campaigning at the voting stations. Article 117 establishes that the president and vice president will be elected by a plurality; that is to say, the presidential and vice presidential candidates with the largest number of votes will win.

Just as the traditional parties' delegates promised, they did not attend the State Council meetings.

COMMUNIST LEADER ALTAMIRANO ON PARTY'S POSITION

PA132241 Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 0230 GMT 13 Mar 84

["Political Debates" phone-in program, presented by the Patriotic Front of the Revolution, FPR, with guest Eli Altamirano, secretary general of the Communist Party of Nicaragua, PCdeN; Gustavo Tablada, FPR coordinator and member of the Nicaraguan Socialist Party, PSN; Cesar Delgadillo, member of the Popular Social Christian Party, PPSC; Adolfo Evertz, member of the PSN; and FSLN representative Reinaldo Payan -- live]

[Excerpts] [Altamirano] Our party has recently announced its decision to participate in the elections alone. However, after reflecting seriously on the country's grave problems and on the U.S. Administration's serious war threats, and realizing that the bourgeois opposition has two stands on the electoral process -- on the one hand, they are making huge demands to hold an election in accordance with their own vested interests, and on the other hand, should these demands not be satisfied, they are apparently considering a military alternative -- we see grave perils for the process and for the Nicaraguan people. For this reason, we believe that the time has come to talk of forming an alliance of the democratic and patriotic forces to confront jointly the bourgeois opposition and all its pretentions. At this point, the PCdeN is striving to forge an alliance so that the democratic and patriotic forces can unite to form a single bloc around the most important national issues that need to be defended against the candidates and aspirations of reaction.

[Unidentified moderator] We have just heard a new version of the PCdeN's public policy, because during the commemoration of the PCdeN anniversary, we heard them announce that they would participate in the elections alone. Yet, today, Altamirano has invited the other revolutionary organizations to form a single bloc. What do the FPR parties say to this? What does the FPR coordinator say to this? What do PPSC representative Delgadillo, PSN representative Evertz, and Sandinist Front representative Payan say to this?

[Tablada] On 3 July 1983, on the occasion of the party's anniversary, the PSN stated its view on the elections and set forth fundamental principles. We said that under the conditions of the current revolutionary process, the elections here should help consolidate this process and should in no way weaken it, much less allow the Nicaraguan people's achievements to be lost. On the contrary, it should create conditions to facilitate the development of the Nicaraguan society and increasingly to strengthen the revolution in all areas. At the same time, we said that imperialism's aggression toward the revolution and our people should be confronted. On that occasion we discussed the advisability of participating in the elections as part of an alliance. The necessary conditions are being created for the democratic forces, the revolutionary forces of Nicaragua, to unite for the elections. This is the official PSN position. Recently, on 26 February, we held a Central Committee meeting. One of the agreements reached at this meeting was the ratification of this position, stressing the need for unity and joint work in order to present a single bloc in the election.

[Delgadillo] We in the PPSC have always said that we sponsor the national unity of this country's revolutionary, democratic, and popular forces. In addition, depending on the course of the electoral process, the PPSC is willing to form blocs or alliances or to run alone, depending on the situation and the country's demands, always on behalf of the revolutionary process. Our goal, therefore, is to further expand the revolutionary process, to institutionalize it, and to prevent the attacks that U.S. imperialism has recently intensified. Above all, we are concerned over the recent mobilization of U.S. and Honduran troops. This definitely threatens the Sandinist people's revolution and keeps the electoral process from developing normally.

[Moderator] At the very outset of this program, PCdeN Secretary General Altamirano called for the formation of a single revolutionary bloc for the upcoming elections. Here is the FSLN's Payan:

[Payan] For the FSLN, the principle of unity continues to be paramount. This principle is necessary -- the union of the patriotic and revolutionary forces around a project that benefits our people. In this regard, the efforts inherent in the FSLN policy of national unity are materializing within the framework of the FPR. As regards the electoral process, the FSLN has already defined a public stance, which everyone is familiar with. This stance is based on the electoral program that was presented for election of a president, a vice president, an executive branch, and a national assembly of representatives. The FSLN views the elections, as part of a necessary phase that must be passed through, in which the various political parties will have to evaluate their forces and will have to present their own programs, their own platforms. We have already presented our political program and platform, while preserving a policy of unity within the FPR.

[Roa] Good evening, this is Marta Roa from Lindavista neighborhood. I would like to ask Companero Altamirano: What is the PCdeN stand; will you participate in the elections alone or as part of an alliance?

[Altamirano] I will gladly discuss this topic again. We are ready to participate alone, primarily because of intensified reaction. We are convinced that imperialism and world capitalism have dedicated huge resources to this process on behalf of the propaganda and mobilization of the reactionary parties. For this reason we see not only our accomplishments endangered, but the elections and the present and the future as well. From this standpoint we feel that it is essential to form an alliance to confront reaction. If we cannot form a bloc, we are in a position to participate alone and are determined to do so.

[Moderator] Companero Altamirano, if the PCdeN participates in the elections alone, will it have a presidential candidate?

[Altamirano] Naturally, we will have presidential and vice presidential candidates, as well as candidates to the national assembly.

[Moderator] The PSN and the PPSC must tell our audience whether they have agreed with the Sandinist Front to participate together. Also, we would like to ask them whether they will have presidential candidates if they participate alone in the elections.

['?Evertz'] We gave some information about this on the last program. We told our people that talks have already been held with the Sandinist Front, the PPSC, and the PSN about the specific way in which we would participate in the elections. These talks have not yet concluded. We expect that during the first 15 days of March we will be able to adopt a definitive position on the subject. Once this is done, we will announce our position. Logically, should we decide to participate in the elections individually, we will have our own presidential, vice presidential, and assembly candidates.

[Moderator] Would the PPSC also have a presidential candidate?

[Delgadillo] We are still holding talks with the PSN and the FSLN. The outcome of those talks will be duly announced to our people and our rank and file. If no agreement is reached to participate as part of an alliance, we will then participate alone, with our own candidates for the various posts. We will announce this in ample time to our rank and file and supporters.

D'ESCOTO'S PROTEST NOTE TO SHULTZ NOTED

PA140049 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 2300 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] United Nations -- Miguel D'Escoto Brockman, the spokesman of Managua's Stalinist regime, has sent U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz the third protest note in scarcely a week's time. D'Escoto's note protests the attacks that the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance fighting forces have carried out against the pro-Soviet interventionist army. He says that these attacks against Nicaraguan economic and military targets are supported by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, CIA.

BRIEFS

FRG PARLIAMENTARIAN VISITS -- Volker Ruhe, deputy chairman of the Christian Democratic Union bloc of the FRG parliament, arrived yesterday on a 2-day official visit to Nicaragua to talk with revolutionary leaders and learn how the electoral process is developing. He yesterday met privately with Commander Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the Government Junta, and Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto Brockman. He will meet this morning with State Council President Carlos Nunez Tellez at the State Council offices and will return to the FRG this afternoon. [Text] [Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 2 Mar 84 PA]

DONATION TO SANDINO FOUNDATION -- Hans Jergen Wischnewski, vice president of the Socialist International, and FRG Social Democratic Party leaders have donated 100,000 DM to the Augusto C. Sandino Foundation. The donation will be used to build a rural children's center in Jinotega. [Summary] [Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 7 Mar 84 PA]

FRG LUTHERAN DELEGATION -- Nicaraguan Interior Minister Tomas Borge yesterday met with an FRG Lutheran Church delegation, which is made up of 30 clergymen led by the Reverend Helmut Reich, secretary of Amnesty International in the FRG. Borge asserted that Nicaragua -- despite facing further U.S. aggression via air, land, and sea -- will hold its elections next November. [Summary] [Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Mar 84 PA]

LAND TITLES -- The Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction and the FSLN yesterday approved the 50th Anniversary Agrarian Reform Plan, submitted by the Agricultural Development and Agrarian Reform Ministry. The plan involves the transfer to Nicaraguan peasants of title to 700,000 manzanas of land. [Excerpt] [Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 16 Feb 84 pp 1, 10 PA]

RAMIRO VALDES DECORATES CHEBRIKOV, FEDORCHUK

FL132105 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Moscow -- Commander of the Revolution Ramiro Valdes has decorated Viktor Chebrikov, candidate member of the CPSU Politburo and KGB chairman, with the Solidarity Order. In a very solemn ceremony, Valdes, who is also a member of the Cuban Communist Party Politburo and interior minister, pinned the Medal of Friendship on Army General Vitaliy Fedorchuk, minister of internal affairs.

At the ceremony, Lionel Soto, member of the Central Committee Secretariat and Cuban ambassador to the USSR, read the respective decrees issued by the Cuban Council of State and signed by its President Fidel Castro. Valdes gave a speech in which he referred to the great political, military, and social merits of those who were decorated.

TANZANIAN DELEGATION MEETS WITH ALMEIDA

FL131630 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Adam Sapi Mkwawa, speaker of the Tanzanian Parliament, and Commander of the Revolution Juan Almeida, Politburo member and vice president of the Council of State, have held a friendly meeting at the offices of the Cuban Institute of Friendship With the Peoples [ICAP]. Sapi Mkwawa is heading a delegation to Cuba. Rene Rodriguez, ICAP president; Rene de los Santos; and Jorge Lezcano, vice president of the National Assembly of the People's Power [ANPP], all of whom are members of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee, were also present at the meeting.

During the meeting the distinguished Tanzanian guest spoke of the good impression he had received from his delegation's activities, which included visiting economically oriented projects, a school for Namibian students, and the old historic section of Havana where Sapi Mkwawa received the keys to the city.

ARGENTINE TRADE DELEGATION ARRIVES IN HAVANA

FL131558 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Hector (Traverso), Argentine assistant secretary for marine resources, has arrived in Havana heading a trade delegation. He is accompanied by top officials of the Argentine Foreign Ministry, the Commerce Secretariat, and other state organizations and agencies, as well as by representatives of labor organizations and private firms.

The Argentine delegation will be officially headed by Secretary of Commerce Ricardo Campero who will arrive in Cuba soon.

CEMA ECONOMIC INSTITUTE BEGINS MEETING IN HAVANA

FL132315 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1907 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Delegates of CEMA member nations are exchanging experiences in this capital on essential affairs in the management of a socialist economy. Attending the 12th meeting of the International Social Economic Problems Institute, which began today and will end Thursday, are representatives from Bulgaria, the GDR, Hungary, the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia, Poland, and Cuba.

During the morning session, a report evaluating the institute's work was read. This organization was created to study and improve the economic management systems of CEMA nations. This afternoon the members of the institute will discuss matters dealing with 1984 work guidelines and the next 5-year period.

PROGRAMMING PLANS FOR RADIO REBELDE ANNOUNCED

FL131615 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Beginning 26 March a new radio station will be aired called Radio Rebelde Nuevo Estilo [Radio Rebelde New Style]. Radio Liberacion will no longer be transmitted over national networks, but its programs will be incorporated into the new programming. Juan Rivero and Juan Hernandez, directors of Radios Progreso and Rebelde, respectively, announced this at a press conference held at the Radio Progreso studio.

The commission in charge of both stations conducted a study of Radio Liberacion time schedules to determine which programs our listeners prefer. The study concluded that 10 Radio Liberacion programs would be transmitted by Radio Progreso as of 19 March.

The commission said that this new program format will also require restructuring Radio Progreso programming because of the adjustments needed to include portions of Radio Liberacion.

Radio Rebelde's format will be different from that of other Cuban stations, one difference being that it will not have a standard programming format. The radio station will be open 24 hours a day. Time periods for music and news -- which will include sports, cultural issues, current events, and other items -- will occupy a major segment of its open programming. These changes will bring about better quality and attract a larger audience.

AUTHORITIES REPORT SUGAR PRODUCTION PROBLEMS

PA132136 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0951 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Havana, 13 Mar (EFE) -- Cuban authorities have said that it is necessary to refine 46 million arrobas of sugarcane daily in order to overcome production delays.

The sugar production deficit in the Cuban harvest amounted to 0.5 million tons in the last 10 days of February. Rain, equipment malfunction, and a noticeable drop in the productivity of the cane-cutting machines are believed to be the factors that have adversely affected production.

At the close of the 15th congress of the Cuban labor unions, President Fidel Castro requested that deficits be overcome. He warned that the sugar harvest faced serious harm and that it required special attention and effort because "all the sugar has been sold."

The National Trade Union of Sugar Industry Workers [SNTA] has proposed a plan to face the current problems, which calls for preparing a reserve workers force for both the refinery process and the planting and cutting of sugarcane.

The authorities have asked that activities not be stopped because of the lack of sugarcane, the equipment damage, or the operational interruptions.

According to SNTA Secretary General Luis Martell Rosa: "There are problems resulting from the large quantities of foreign material arriving at the sugar mills, which means that the quality control officers for the cutting operation are not being too demanding." He added: "This problem has reached alarming proportions in some sugar mills, and has negatively affected sugar production and yield and the best utilization of the installations."

The current sugar harvest was expected to produce approximately 8.2 million tons of sugar, although some economic experts had said from the start that this would be a "long and difficult" harvest.

Cuba has repeatedly stated that it wants to stabilize its yearly sugar production at the 9-million-ton level by the end of the current 5-year period. Cuba's sugar industry provides 80 percent of the country's foreign exchange currency. In 1982 Cuba had one of its largest harvests ever with an 8.2-million-ton production, but this was reduced by 1 million tons last year because of tornadoes that hit the island during the first 3 months of the year.

TEACHER CONTINGENTS DEPART FOR WORK IN NICARAGUA

FL122035 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1919 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] The Augusto Cesar Sandino Internationalist Teacher Contingent, composed of 219 educators from Pinar del Rio who will lend their services in Nicaragua, was seen off in that province with a mass rally.

Speaking for 80 internationalist teachers from Vuelta Abajo, Jorge Perez Velazquez referred to the group's decision to continue the work of martyr (Agado Morales) and other teachers who have fallen fulfilling their missions. Perez Velazquez said that in case of aggression they will be ready to fight against the enemies of the Sandinist revolution.

In his closing remarks at the farewell ceremony for Pinar del Rio's internationalist teachers, Lionel Valdes Alonso, member of the party provincial bureau, noted the honor of being selected to fulfill a cooperation mission in a sister nation.

PRELA REPORTS ON 'TENSE' C.A. SITUATION

FL132010 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Next you will hear a report from (Francisco Urichari), a PRENSA LATINA correspondent in Managua, on the tense situation along the Honduran-Nicaraguan border:

The tense situations along the Honduran borders with Nicaragua and El Salvador have a common denominator: the increased aggressiveness of the Reagan administration in Central America. This opinion can be supported by the new counterrevolutionary incursions and Honduran Army attacks on Nicaraguan military and civilian installations, as well as the transfer of 2,500 U.S. soldiers to the Honduran-Salvadoran border.

The Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry, which sent vigorous protest notes to Tegucigalpa and Washington because of several attacks on its soil and in its territorial waters which resulted in several casualties and property damage, has sent notes to Honduras blaming that government for five new attacks carried out between 10 and 12 March. It must be noted that Honduran troops have been involved in these last few actions carried out by mercenary groups from Honduras.

Another significant detail is that their harassment actions, attacks, and incursions near Somotillo, a passage from Honduras to the strategic northwestern Nicaraguan region. It must be added that this area of the country has been the scene of the most severe air and naval attacks on Nicaragua over the past few months. The country's most important port, Corinto, which is vital to the Nicaraguan economy, is located in this area.

It was announced yesterday that U.S. airborne troops are being transferred from U.S. bases in the Panama Canal Zone to areas near the border between Honduras and El Salvador. The FMLN General Command has described this troop movement as a direct aggression against the Salvadoran people and a provocation to guerrilla forces controlling border zones in El Salvador.

A report that U.S. warships are on their way to Central America became another factor which increased the already tense situation.

(?We have surmised) that there are more than 1,700 U.S. soldiers who were left behind after the recently concluded [name indistinct] maneuvers. It has also been learned that large transport planes brought weapons and military equipment to Honduras to arm thousands of men. There is no doubt as to the dangerous nature of the situation.

The escalation in U.S. aggressiveness in Central America is thus a direct result of Washington's militaristic policy of imposing its will in this explosive region.

COSTA RICA DENIES PRESS REPORT OF ARMS PURCHASE

PA132350 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] The Costa Rican Government has denied any plans to buy defensive weapons, explaining that it is only trying to modernize the weapons of its Civil Guard, which is charged with guaranteeing the country's security. A note distributed by the Costa Rican mission at the United Nations denied an assertion in this connection made by a Costa Rican security official. Costa Rica is not involved in an arms buildup, and it reiterates its profound desire for neutrality, the note said.

On 3 March the San Jose newspaper LA NACION published a statement by senior Public Security official Francisco Tacsan to the effect that Costa Rica was taking steps to buy weapons with which to reinforce its northern border.

COSTA RICA ARRESTS ARMED CONTRAS, HONDURAN

PA130451 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] A group of six heavily armed Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries and one Honduran have been captured at a camp in the northern zone of Costa Rica, Major Juan Rafael Guevara Araya of the Costa Rican Public Security Ministry has reported. Guevara said that the men were found at their hideout in a mountainous sector 1 km from the Nicaraguan village of (Carcena). According to a Civil Guard report, 11 rifles, 2 with telescopic sights, along with 1 grenade launcher, 1 machine gun, 1 mortar, a large quantity of ammunition, mines, grenades, and radio equipment were seized.

UNGO CALLS SALVADORAN ELECTIONS U.S. WAR PROJECT

FL132015 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] San Jose -- Revolutionary leader Guillermo Ungo has stated that the upcoming Salvadoran elections are not only a solution to the conflict but may become an instrument for a direct U.S. intervention. [sentence as heard] In an interview for Radio Venceremos, the FDR president reiterated that the scheduled elections are a U.S. project for war, not for peace. Moreover, he stressed that it is foolish to accept any candidate because none of them represents the people's interest.

EL SALVADOR'S FMLN, RIGHTS GROUP ON U.S. TROOPS

Provocation of Guerrilla Forces

FL131550 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] While U.S. President Ronald Reagan was exerting new pressure on his country's Congress to approve new military aid for the Salvadoran regime, the FMLN described the deployment of Yankee troops to the border with Honduras as a direct aggression against and provocation of guerrilla forces.

Reagan brazenly said that without these funds and U.S. training El Salvador will not be able to hold safe elections or to defend the country.

According to news reports, a contingent of more than 2,500 U.S. soldiers is being transferred to the border between Honduras and El Salvador, marking the beginning of new U.S. military escalation in Central America. In view of this situation, the FMLN General Command issued a communique urging all rebel combatants to fight the invading troops.

It was also reported that a large section of the eastern region of El Salvador has been without electricity for 72 hours, after the guerrillas blew up three towers in Usulutan Department.

To Support Electoral 'Farce'

PA130424 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Salvadoran guerrillas destroyed three electrical towers in Mercedes Umana municipality, Usulutan Department. Many towns in the eastern zone of El Salvador were left without electricity.

Meanwhile, FMLN forces have orders to repel any attack from foreign forces. In a communique read over Radio Venceremos, the FMLN criticized the arrival of some 2,000 U.S. Marines in Honduras from the Panama Canal area, who are now stationed in zones near the Salvadoran border.

The Human Rights Commission of El Salvador condemned the U.S. plan and called the action interventionist. This military force is present to support the 25 March electoral farce in El Salvador. In a document issued in San Jose, Costa Rica, the Human Rights Commission of El Salvador says that the presence of the Marines a few kilometers from the zones where the rebels are active is to provide logistics support for the Salvadoran Army.

The Human Rights Commission of El Salvador has appealed to the international organizations and democratic governments of the world to condemn this action, which violates the right of the people to self-determination and is a preamble to direct U.S. intervention in El Salvador.

REBEL STATIONS REPORT ON SALVADORAN FIGHTING

FL131642 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1338 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] According to Radio Farabundo Marti, Salvadoran guerrilla forces have attacked two Army companies, inflicting 18 casualties -- dead and wounded -- in incidents in central Cabanas Department. The rebel station stated that a push-and-pull [in English] style airplane provided air cover for the government troops and indiscriminately bombed the area's civilian population.

Meanwhile, Radio Venceremos has revealed that the Army suffered numerous casualties when guerrillas clashed with the Morazan Battalion on the highway between San Simon and Villa Rosario in Morazan Department. Radio Venceremos also said that the Salvadoran rebels dislodged Cuscatlan Battalion troops from their positions in Carolina, San Miguel Department.

NICARAGUA'S ORTEGA ON REAGAN'S C.A. POLICY

PA132345 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Nicaraguan Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, has stated that as long as the Reagan Administration continues thinking along the lines of a militaristic solution to Central American problems, the area could become involved in direct intervention at any given moment. In a statement for the Mexican newspaper EL DIA, Ortega stressed that intervention by the United States might occur either in El Salvador or Nicaragua, or in the two countries simultaneously. Ortega added that an electoral victory by Reagan would strengthen the interventionist and aggressive positions, if the intervention is not staged prior to the U.S. elections.

As for the new concept of democracy that exists in Nicaragua, Ortega indicated that power in his country rests on the people's will, and that the people endorse the revolutionary government's actions.

BORJA HOPES FOR SUPPORT IN ECUADOR RUNOFF

PA140247 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Rodrigo Borja, presidential candidate of the Democratic Left, is counting on the votes of 300,000 people who supported candidates who were defeated in January's elections.

Over the weekend, the Broad Front of the Left announced its decision to support Borja, who will oppose Leon Febres Cordero, the rightist candidate. The Democratic Party and the Popular Democratic Union have done likewise.

In the first electoral round, Borja defeated Febres Cordero by more than 55,000 votes. Borja is also seeking the votes of center-left parties such as the Alfarist Radical Front and the Concentration of Popular Forces.

PERU'S UNITED LEFT LEADER ON GROUP STRUCTURE

PA131715 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Here is a statement by Alfonso Barrantes, mayor of Lima and president of the United Left of Peru. Barrantes first discussed the structure of this political group:

[Begin Barrantes recording] The effort to achieve unity has been a long and difficult task. We did not initiate that effort; it was initiated by other companeros before our time. However, for reasons that would require some study, they did not succeed. Still, we gained from their experience, and in September 1980 we created what is now known as the United Left.

How can this be explained? There are many reasons, but two suffice to explain the success of this effort to secure unity. First, all of the Peruvian leftist parties humbly admitted that not one of them alone could truly contribute to any important change in the country's social system, and thus it was both logical and necessary for them to join talents, abilities, and energy. Second, the ties that all of these parties had and have with the people made them realize that the broad sectors of the people wanted unity. So a combination of these two factors and other circumstances too lengthy to list prompted us to persist in our efforts, and in 1980 we founded the United Left.

In October we nominated a candidate for the mayoral elections in Lima; I was that candidate, and we secured 25 percent of the votes. This demonstrated that the United Left had the support of the people and that leftist parties that did not join us would not have such support.

Following the November 1980 experience, we continued to strengthen the unity process. In recent elections we have won in various places, particularly in Lima, where 67 percent of the voters live. [end recording]

Barrantes also listed the political organizations that comprise the United Left movement:

[Begin Barrantes recording] The united Left is composed of eight parties. I can list them in alphabetical order, which is how I do it, so as not to offend anyone. One must know how to handle this sort of thing, too.

We have the Popular, Student, Peasant, and Worker Front, FOCEP, led by Senator Genaro Ledesma. There is the Peruvian Communist Party, whose secretary general is Senator Jorge del Prado; the Revolutionary Communist Party, whose secretary general is Deputy Manuel Dammert; the Socialist Revolutionary Party, whose president is General Leonidas Rodriguez, retired, and whose secretary general is Senator Bernari.

There are two small fronts: the Popular Democratic Union [UDP], which is composed of two parties, the Movement of the Revolutionary Left, led by Carlos Tapia; and the Revolutionary Vanguard, whose secretary general is Deputy Javier de Santes. The other front is the Union of the Revolutionary Left, which is also composed of two parties, the Communist Party of Peru, whose secretary general is Alberto Moreno; and the Proletarian Communist Revolutionary Vanguard [Vanguardia Revolucionaria Proletario Communista], whose secretary general is Eduardo Quijada.

I am the president of this united front, and I don't belong to any of the parties. When I am asked my affiliation, I respond that I am a Mariateguist, because I, along with all these parties, indentify with the philosophy and ideas of Jose Carlos Mariategui, believing that socialism in Latin America will not be produced by imitation but by heroic efforts.

We know that all roads lead to socialism in this stage of history, but each nation, each revolutionary organization, must build its own road. As Machado, the poet, used to say: Walkers, there is no path; you make the path as you walk. And all of Latin America's revolutionary movements are making their own paths, and there is no imitation. We are sure that we will meet at the end of the journey to welcome socialism to Latin America. [end recording]

PERUVIAN UNIONS TO CALL STRIKE; COMMANDOS KILLED

PA140321 Havana International Service in Quechua 2200 GMT 9 Mar 84

[Text] Dispatches from Lima have reported that six members of Shining Path were killed in Ayacucho Department during an attack on a police station. Later, police arrested more than 30 presumed members of Shining Path.

Meanwhile, after exhaustive debates, the four largest labor unions of Peru have decided to call a general strike beginning 22 March. Thousands of workers and peasants will participate in the strike, according to the General Confederation of Peruvian Workers, the Confederation of Peruvian Workers, the National Agrarian Confederation, and the Confederation of Workers of the Peruvian Revolution. The three largest peasant organizations of Peru, independent trade unions, and the Federation of Peruvian Students will also participate in the nationwide strike.

Rapes, Disappearances Reported

PA132330 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] A 13-year-old Peruvian girl has charged that she and her two aunts were raped in the garrison of the village of (Vilcachuaman), in Ayacucho, where they were taken after being arrested as alleged terrorists.

Meanwhile, sanitation expert (Misael Gutierrez), who was detained on 21 November 1983 after aiding four soldiers injured in an ambush near Tambo by the armed group Shining Path, is reportedly missing from the same area in Ayacucho. (Gutierrez) was also charged with aiding Shining Path members.

For its part, the Peruvian Federation of Spearfishing [Federacion Peruana de Caza Submarina] has demanded an investigation into the death of Jose Ernesto Valarde, national champion of that sport, who died from a bullet presumably fired from an Air Force base located near the Lima beach where the victim was practicing.

PANAMANIAN DEPUTY MINISTER CITED ON CADESCA

PA132306 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Panamanian Deputy Foreign Minister Jose Maria Cabrera has expressed his satisfaction over the fact that his country has been chosen as the seat of the Action Committee for the Economic and Social Development of Central America, CADESCA. Cabrera described this organization as a fundamental cornerstone in the search for solutions to the crisis in the area, adding that it complements the Contadora Group's peace efforts in a very positive way.

CADESCA was founded last December in Panama with the participation of 18 hemispheric countries that are members of SELA.

PANAMANIAN PDP'S YOUTH LEADER INTERVIEWED

PA120110 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 10 Mar 84

[Interview with Pastor Falconett, secretary of the youth movement of the People's Party, PdP, of Panama, by Estrella Diaz; date and place not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Diaz] To what extent have the Torrijos-Carter canal treaties been fulfilled?

[Falconett] First of all, I want to thank Cuba's Radio Havana for the opportunity to express the opinion of the Panamanian youth, particularly the People's Party youth movement, concerning various Panamanian matters.

As to the Torrijos-Carter treaties, we consider that their main objective, namely the progressive decolonization of our country, is seriously affected by the number of treaty violations by the Reagan administration. The approval of Amendment No 9270, which permits the United States to place the Panama Canal Commission under the U.S. Government, is actually a new version of the colonial governorship of the former Canal Zone, which keeps alive the colonialist spirit in the present Canal Commission.

Besides, there have been other violations concerning the functioning of the canal itself, such as salary discrimination against Panamanian workers and the use of military forces, supposedly assigned exclusively to defense of the canal, in aggression against other countries like Grenada and El Salvador and in the recent conflict over the Malvinas Islands in Argentina. In addition, these military forces are used in many other activities unrelated to the protection of the canal.

[Diaz] What is your appraisal of the peace proposals made by the Contadora Group?

[Falconett] There is no doubt that the Contadora Group is an initiative to find a peaceful political solution to the Central American conflict in view of the attitude of the U.S. Government, which wants to settle the crisis through force. So far the Contadora efforts have been positive, and have responded to the need for solving that conflict through negotiations. The final results of such negotiations must be based on respect for the self-determination of the Central American peoples. Contadora has up to now been able to check the aggressive advance of the Reagan administration, but we believe that in order to attain successful, definitive results it will not only be necessary to have a declaration of support on the part of the U.S. Government, but a real commitment to earnest negotiations concerning the problem between the Nicaraguan Government and the Honduran regime, which supports the Somozist bands' aggression against Nicaragua. A commitment is also needed regarding the conflict of the Salvadoran people against the dictatorial, repressive regime of El Salvador.

BRIEFS

NEW DAM CONSTRUCTION -- A new dam is under construction on the Tuinicu River, Sancti Spiritus Province, which will resolve some of the water shortage problems of the area. So far the dam has cost 6 million Cuban pesos. The dam walls will be 540 meters in height and the dam will be able to supply 250 liters of water per second. The water shortage in the capital of Sancti Spiritus will improve by 1986. [Summary] [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2100 GMT 8 Mar 84 FL]

SIX COUNTRIES TO HOLD SECURITY PACT MEETING

FL122330 Bridgetown CANA in English 2250 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, March 12 (CANA) -- Six Eastern Caribbean countries involved in a defence and security pact were today preparing for their second meeting here in just over a month. The meeting, scheduled to begin tonight, bringing together top security personnel and government leaders from Barbados, St Kitts and Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent, Dominica, and Antigua and Barbuda, is expected to finalise basic arrangements for establishing a regional defence force.

Following last month's meeting, Barbados Prime Minister Tom Adams said the six countries planned to have one standing army, "which would have a unified command under general political direction." Adams said the expenditure for the five other countries could be considerable, and predicted that negotiations would have to go on for some time with major Western governments -- including the U.S. and Canada -- for cash and other assistance.

The security pact is one year old. The newest member is St Kitts and Nevis, formally admitted last month. The treaty provides for training, coastal patrol, air and sea rescue, and anti-smuggling activities.

Member countries discussed it with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz during his February 7-8 visit to Barbados. Shultz said Washington would study how it could help.

CARICOM MINISTERS ON U.S. UNESCO PULLOUT

FL121635 Bridgetown CANA in English 2220 GMT 10 Mar 84

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, March 10 (CANA) -- Caribbean Community (Caricom) education ministers met today to discuss the U.S. decision to pull out of UNESCO at the end of this year.

A promised statement after the meeting was not issued, and Dominica's Education Minister Charles Maynard said none would be issued at this stage. Officials said the ministers would be meeting later to discuss the issue further, but could not say when or where.

The United States gave notice last December that it would quit UNESCO (the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation) at the end of 1984, citing alleged mismanagement, politicisation, confusion over human rights concepts and budgetary problems. Gregory Newell, assistant secretary of state for international organisations, said last week America was making a last-ditch effort to see whether UNESCO could change sufficiently to reverse the decision.

A Dominica Government statement had said the U.S. move has been a matter of deep concern to Caribbean governments.

Education ministers of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) discussed the matter at a two-day meeting which ended yesterday.

ANGUILLA

NEW CHIEF MINISTER, CABINET MEMBERS SWORN IN

FL122205 Bridgetown CANA in English 2009 GMT 12 Mar 84

[By Wycliffe Richardson]

[Text] The Valley, Anguilla, March 12 (CANA) -- A 65-year-old businessman, Emile Gumbs, was today sworn in as chief minister of the tiny British island colony of Anguilla. The 45-minute ceremony, during which Gumbs and the three other members of his cabinet also took the oaths of office, came three days after the Anguilla National Alliance (ANA) won four of the seven seats in general elections.

For Gumbs, a former sea captain who became an executive of the Anguilla Road Salt Company, it marked the return to a position he held from 1977 to 1980 after a no-confidence vote brought down the Ronald Webster government.

Also sworn in today were retired primary school headmistress Albena Lake-Hodge, minister of education; businessman Eric Reid, minister of works, public utilities and health; and businessman Hubert Hughes, minister of finance and lands. Hughes ran as an independent candidate for last Friday's election, which saw former Chief Minister Webster losing his seat. Webster's Anguilla People's Party gained two seats. Lake-Hodge is also responsible for community development and youth affairs, tourism, economic development, and planning.

Gumbs holds the labour, trade and commerce, communication, agriculture, and fisheries portfolios.

During the morning ceremony in the House of Assembly, Gumbs pledged to do everything in his power to ensure that the trust the electorate placed in his party was not betrayed.

British Governor Alistair Baillie, who conducted the swearing-in, called on Anguillans to forget what he said were the bitterness and disunity which had prevailed during the election campaign. He also paid tribute to the outstanding contribution made by Webster during the last decade and a half.

Webster, 55, dominated politics in the 35-square mile island of about 7,000 inhabitants since leading the secession from the union of St Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla in 1967. He miscalculated the mood of the country when he called the election two years ahead of schedule.

Gumbs' party has strengthened its hand by wooing Hughes. In a statement released today, the executive of the party said Hughes' inclusion was sought, bearing in mind the groups aims and objectives. "The executive regards this as a significant step in moulding our people as one family..." the statement read.

The party added: "From this day forward, we commit ourselves to the advancement of a sound, honest, and dedicated government for the advancement of our country's economic, social, spiritual, and cultural development."

Today's session was the fifth for the House of Assembly since the introduction of the ministerial system of government here, in 1976.

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

JACOBS ON INDUSTRIAL SECTOR EXPENDITURES

FL082345 Bridgetown CANA in English 2241 GMT 8 Mar 84

[Text] St Johns, Antigua, March 8 (CANA) -- Antigua and Barbuda will spend 18 million dollars (1 EC dollar; 37 cents U.S.) on the industrial sector this year in an effort to improve upon the 2.9 per cent growth rate recorded by the entire economy last year, Governor General Sir Wilfred Jacobs said today.

Delivering the throne speech at the formal opening of the final session of Parliament, Sir Wilfred said the sum will be invested in the establishment of nine new industries which will manufacture cars, toilet and bathroom fittings, chainlink fences, and galvanised sheets. "All of the existing factory shells are now in use and it has become obvious that the industrial park at Coolidge is now overloaded," Sir Wilfred said. He added: "This year, a site for a new park will be identified to cater for nine new projects which will employ an additional 600 workers.

The governor general said such investment, however, requires a climate of political stability and industrial peace, for "no investor, local or foreign, will risk money in a country beset with political and industrial strife."

In apparent reference to last October's political crisis in Grenada, the governor general said it was therefore imperative for Antiguans and Barbudans "to maintain the peace and tranquillity of the state, to eschew the lure of foreign ideologies which have promised much in other parts of the Caribbean, but which have delivered nothing but disaster." He added that while the country survived the economic strains of last year with a large measure of success, nationals should be mindful that they could have fallen victim to those events which led the Grenadian people to be terrorised at the point of a gun.

An internal power struggle developed in Grenada last October and resulted in the brutal killing of Prime Minister Maurice Bishop and several of his cabinet members by a left-wing military junta. This group was subsequently overthrown by a U.S.-led multinational force. "These events shocked and disturbed the region as a whole, for they represented a sharp departure from the civilised culture of the Caribbean peoples, whose commitment to democracy in the political process is unswerving," the governor general said.

Sir Wilfred said evidence has emerged that forces were at work in Antigua and Barbuda with the purpose of imposing an ideology alien to the society. "Had those forces succeeded, our community would have been shattered, our way of life altered for all time, our freedoms would have been abridged, and our inheritance of democracy and respect for the rule of law would have been lost for generations to come," he said. Sir Wilfred said this twin-island state's foreign policy will continue to be based on two major plans: -- "The fostering of economic cooperation with countries and international agencies in order to promote the development of Antigua and Barbuda, and the maintenance of democracy, equity, and social justice in international relations."

"It is natural that in the pursuit of such a policy, my government will work closely with countries which share our commitment to democracy," he said. The government said it will also strengthen relations with the commission of the European Communities in an effort to identify areas of economic cooperation and to realise tangible benefits from such cooperation.

Turning to the Caribbean Community (Caricom), the governor general said relations will also be strengthened with the 13-nation economic grouping, which he said is the most important vehicle for the achievement of economic self-reliance by Caribbean people.

"My people will act in every constructive way to preserve the solidarity of the Community and to broaden its economic base," he said. He added: "My government will strive for the removal of all protectionist barriers to free trade in the region and will work further for an equitable allocation of industries throughout all of Caricom to achieve a fair and just distribution of employment opportunities."

Towards the end of 1983, the manufacturing sector here experienced difficulty in gaining access to its traditional markets in the more developed countries of Caricom because of certain restrictive measures imposed by a few member states.

The governor general reported that the Antigua and Barbuda economy grew by 2.9 per cent last year, mainly due to a 16 per cent growth in tourism and an additional 12.8 per cent increase in agriculture. The manufacturing and construction sectors also showed some growth.

AMA CONCERNED OVER EXPORTS TO JAMAICA, TRINIDAD

FL121717 Bridgetown CANA in English 1724 GMT 11 Mar 84

[Text] St Johns, Antigua, March 11 (CANA) -- The Antigua Manufacturers Association (AMA) has voiced concern about what it says is a deterioration in the level of exports to Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago from Antigua. The AMA blamed both Trinidad and Tobago and Jamaica for the problem.

While Jamaica was actively promoting its exports in the region, Antiguan manufacturers were still not gaining access to the Jamaican market, AMA President Tom Billing said.

According to Billing, the Jamaican Government still maintained an effective licensing system which prevented the importation of Antiguan products into Jamaica. He said the problem was being compounded by Jamaica's acute shortage of foreign exchange and the country's apparent preference for North American imports over Caribbean Community (Caricom) products.

In the case of Trinidad and Tobago, the AMA president said that following a recent meeting with Antigua and Barbuda's Economic Development Minister Lester Bird, he was assured that the government would continue to make every effort to have trade between the two states normalised.

Billing said he felt it would require the collective efforts of members of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) to make Trinidad and Tobago recognise the critical position of industry prevailing in the less developed countries (LDC's) of the region. Billing also pointed out that the Antiguan manufacturers will need the full support of the local consumers while the problems existed.

BARBADOS

ADAMS ON TRINIDAD'S EXCHANGE RESERVES DRAIN

FL132305 Bridgetown CANA in English 2024 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, March 13 (CANA) -- Barbados Prime Minister Tom Adams has suggested that Trinidad and Tobago would have got better results if it used other options, including a manipulation of credit, rather than introduce an import licensing regime in its bid to check a run on its foreign exchange reserves.

In an interview published by the EXPRESS newspaper, Adams said: "Import licensing is no way to stop a drain on foreign reserves, it cannot do it, it has not done it in any country, and it never will." He described the introduction of import licensing regimes as "a negative step."

During a news conference in Barbados last month, Adams remarked that a number of negative decisions had been taken by Port-of-Spain. Adams, in the interview, said the remark was a reference to trade and not the twin island state's attitude towards regionalism. "Is there some quarrel with the use of the word 'negative' to describe the imposition of a regime of import licensing?" the Barbados prime minister asked. "It's a very negative step, though I use the word in economic terms, not in pejorative or critical terms at all."

He suggested the more positive approach to stimulating exports while making imports more problematic was through such devices as manipulation of credit. "One of the first things we did when we came to power in 1976," said Adams of his Barbados Labour Party (BLP), "was to do away with as many import licenses as we possibly could, even though our foreign reserves were flying out the window faster than anyone could fly after them."

The Barbados prime minister saw Trinidad and Tobago's problems in terms of trade as being related to competing effectively with lower-cost goods manufactured in the region. He said Trinidad and Tobago, the Caribbean Community's (Caricom) largest market, "is going through a period when its manufacturers are having some difficulty competing with lower-cost manufacturers in other member states." He said that in some areas there was really not much difference in the development stages of Trinidad and Tobago and Barbados. "We both have industrial sectors. Trinidad's may be the larger, ours may perhaps be the bigger exporters," said the Barbados prime minister.

"In terms of tourism, there is not much difference. We may have the larger sector. In terms of agriculture, Barbados may have a more vibrant sector. But the two countries are not really very far apart."

Admas expressed regret over the affair involving the withdrawal of Trinidad and Tobago High Commissioner to Bridgetown Basil Pitt during the Grenada crisis last October, after the two publicly disagreed over the contents of a private meeting. "The affair is closed and I really regret it."

Officials at this country's External Affairs Ministry today confirmed earlier reports that Pitt had been appointed Trinidad and Tobago's new high commissioner to Canada. The officials could not say how soon he would take up his appointment nor could they give any information on a replacement for Pitt, who remained accredited to eastern Cribbean states after he was recalled from Barbados.

The Pitt affair helped sour relations between Trinidad and Tobago and Barbados at a time they differed over the U.S.-led invasion of Grenada in which Barbados participated.

Adams called for Pitt's recall after the Trinidad and Tobago envoy contradicted a claim by the Barbados prime minister that he (Adams) had asked Pitt to alert the Chambers administration about plans for invading the spice isle then caught up in political turmoil. "Mr Pitt is a charming man with whom I enjoyed a good personal relationship," Adams said.

CENTRAL BANK REGULATES IMPORT OF JAMAICAN GOODS

FL130052 Bridgetown CANA in English 2158 GMT 12 Mar 84

[By Albert Brandford]

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, March 12 (CANA) -- Barbados, owed some six million U.S. dollars by Jamaica, which is facing a foreign currency squeeze, has made it mandatory for importers to get Central Bank permission before bringing in Jamaican goods. The Central Bank has revoked the authority of authorised dealers who had the power to approve payments for imports of merchandise into Barbados against original copies of invoices and customs entries. According to a bank statement: "Effective immediately, all applicants for the payment of merchandise from Jamaica into Barbados require the prior approval of the Central Bank of Barbados."

Importers who want to be assured of prompt settlement of liabilities have been urged to submit applications at least 15 working days before the con ractual date of the settlement of their liabilities. A senior official of the Central Bank said the move was intended to make it possible for Barbadian exporters to continue selling goods to Jamaica, given the country's critical foreign exchange shortage.

The official said local importers will be asked to detail the amount they plan to import, which the Central Bank will try to match with a similar sum owed by a Jamaican company. "If we can, by importing, build up obligations to Jamaica, we can use those for our importers to get paid," the official explained.

Jamaica has a foreign debt of some 870 million U.S. dollars and the growing cost of debt servicing brought about by past borrowings and high international interest rates has put a severe burden on its foreign exchange earnings.

The Edward Seaga administration is currently negotiating a 180 million U.S. dollar aid package with the International Monetary Fund (IMF), and among the adjustments put in place as a result are a 43 per cent devaluation of the Jamaica dollar, a 12 per cent ceiling on new credit, and a demand to drastically reduce the fiscal deficit, which is now around 15 per cent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

The measures are aimed at reducing consumption expenditure, thereby increasing domestic savings and reducing pressure on the foreign exchange reserves.

The (Central) Bank of Jamaica on February 24 notified importers from within the Caribbean Community (Caricom) that, before placing orders, they should contact the Bank of Jamaica unit at the Trade Board so as to register such imports and provide information on the intended payment schedule.

It said this procedure should be adhered to whether or not the goods are subject to import licenses. Under existing arrangements, imports of goods and services from Caricom are netted out against exports to the region through clearing facilities operated by the Bank of Jamaica and the other central banks in the region. The bank pointed out that any resulting deficit on overall payments with Caricom has to be paid by the Bank of Jamaica in foreign currency. "In order for the Bank of Jamaica to monitor its outstanding obligations and provide for an orderly flow of payments," a statement said, "it must have advance notice of imports which are being undertaken and the proposed dates on which payments will be effected.

DOMINICA

ACCORD REACHED ON DELIMITATION OF FRENCH ISLANDS

FL100055 Bridgetown CANA in English 2352 GMT 9 Mar 84

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, March 9 (CANA) -- France and Dominica have agreed on a line of delimitation to be adopted on the Atlantic side bordering Dominica and the two French overseas territories of Martinique and Guadeloupe, which sandwich Dominica.

A communique, issued at the end of two days of talks here, said agreement had also been reached on the geodetic system to be used in drawing up the delimitation line. Geodetics is the science of surveying large areas of the earth, allowing for its curvature.

The communique said the talks, which began in 1982, will continue at a date and place to be decided.

Dominica's delegation to the talks, which included officials from the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Cooperation and the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) Secretariat, was headed by Prime Minister Eugenia Charles.

The French delegation was headed by Gilbert Guillaume, director of legal affairs in the French Ministry of External Affairs.

GRENADA

NJM SUPPORTERS REGROUP, SEEK CELEBRATION

FL121718 Bridgetown CANA in English 1855 GMT 11 Mar 84

[By George Worme]

[Text] St George's, Grenada, March 11 (CANA) -- Supporters of the leftist New Jewel Movement (NJM), which ruled Grenada for four-and-a-half years before it was ousted last October 19, are regrouping and in the process feeling out public reaction in advance of general elections later this year.

The NJM, which came to power in a coup on March 13, 1979, was itself overthrown in a military takeover by a radical faction after a leadership feud with moderates. Supporters are using the platform of a newly formed charity foundation in honour of Maurice Bishop, the NJM prime minister, and more than 110 others who lost their lives in the bloody coup that triggered a U.S.-led invasion.

Leaders say they have not addressed the question of elections but they have made a number of moves clearly designed to test public reaction, in addition to the stated aim of preserving Bishop's memory.

These include the launching last month of the "Maurice Bishop October 19, 1983 Martyrs Foundation," and the first issue yesterday of a monthly newsletter "People's Heroes."

The next step is the celebration of the fifth anniversary Tuesday of the 1979 coup, the first in the English-speaking Caribbean. The NJM had planned lavish festivities, including the opening of the Point Salines International Airport, their showpiece project, and on which construction halted when U.S. troops invaded. The celebrations are taking place against the backdrop of charges of murder and conspiracy to murder brought last month against eighteen of the country's former political and military leaders -- all NJM members -- arising out of the slaying of Bishop and three members of his cabinet.

Former Deputy Prime Minister Bernard Coard and ex-Army commander General Hudson Austin were charged with conspiracy to murder along with nine others under a 1980 Terrorism Prevention Law passed by the People's Revolutionary Government (PRG), as the NJM regime called itself.

Seven former soldiers of the disbanded People's Revolutionary Army (PRA) were charged with the murder of Bishop, Foreign Minister Unison Whiteman, Education Minister Jacqueline Creft, Housing Minister Norris Bain, and four others. The Foundation was founded by the three PRG ministers not killed or in detention -- George Louison, Lynden Ramdhanny, and Kendrick Radix, who had distanced themselves from the radical faction.

Its festivities will centre on an exhibition and cultural show involving regional artists and calypsonians. Although March 13 has been removed by the New Grenada Government as one of the official public holidays, the Foundation in its weekend newsletter said the day remains "the most important positive historic date in the Grenada calendar, despite efforts to whitewash it from the minds of the Grenadian people."

The achievements listed by "People's Heroes" during the reign of the PRF include free education, medical care, and milk distribution, as well as a housing repair programme, and cheaper consumer items such as sugar, rice, flour, and cement. Also mentioned were expanded port facilities, additional telephone facilities, the setting up of an agro-industrial plant, and the construction with Cuban assistance of the international airport in the south of the island. The airport is now due to be completed by the end of October with American and Canadian funds, after the Cuban workers on the site were expelled.

Reaction to Tuesday's planned activities is mixed here, with the government publicly stating that it is in no way connected with plans of the organisers.

Last night, head of the Grenada Government Nicholas Brathwaite said the caretaker administration has no intention of celebrating March 13 and the request made by the Foundation to government (to bring in foreign artists) was intended to create "confusion" since this was not an issue. "I have said many times before and even in my recent broadcast to the nation that I hope that things like March 13 and October 19 do not ever return to this country," Brathwaite told CANA.

Additionally, the Government Information Service (GIS), in frequent announcements on the state-owned "Radio Grenada" this weekend, said that March 13 is not a public holiday and schools would be opened as usual and all government workers and others should report to duty on Tuesday.

Enthusiasm for the occasion seems most among the youth where the PRG drew its support.

Former Agriculture Minister Louison states that no amount of "undermining" can wash out the fundamental importance of the "Grenada revolution" in bringing benefits to Grenadians.

The significance of March 13, according to Louison, cannot be washed away, and as such the Foundation intends to celebrate the event every year "and we think whether March 13 is a public holiday or not the people of this country would want to celebrate it." "I think everybody in this country as well as people throughout the Caribbean and the rest of the world recognise the importance that March 13 meant for the participation of the people in the development of this country for their social, political, cultural, and economic development," he added.

Louison said the Foundation, which is now in the process of setting up branches throughout the country, would prefer to have March 13 on the list of public holidays and would work towards this aim. "We think that it is such a critical date in the history of our country that there is no way in which we can see it as not being a public holiday, and in fact it is more important than many other days that are celebrated as public holidays in this country."

Louison: Not Political Force

FL132230 Bridgetown CANA in English 2154 GMT 13 Mar 84

[By George Worme]

[Text] St George's, Grenada, March 13 (CANA) -- The moderate faction of the deposed leftist People's Revolutionary Government (PRG) is assessing the political climate before deciding whether to contest the next general elections, a spokesman said today.

Former PRG Minister George Louison told reporters on the fifth anniversary of the coup which brought the PRG to power that the New Jewel Movement (NJM) which formed the government was no longer functioning as a political group.

He said the NJM, which toppled the Sir Eric Gairy regime on March 13, 1979, was split into two factions after internal feuding over its leadership climaxed in the execution of Prime Minister Maurice Bishop, three cabinet ministers, and several others in a military takeover by the more radical faction on October 19.

The military junta that emerged was toppled by a United States-led multinational force last October 25 that was partly aimed at restoring elected government. The interim government installed since the invasion has promised elections for yearend.

Louison said that the moderate NJM faction was not operating at present as a political force, but had chosen to group together to launch the Maurice Bishop Memorial Foundation in memory of the late prime minister. "We who belong to the wing of the party that supported Maurice Bishop are now engaged in commemorating the life and works of the martyrs of October 19, and we are not engaged in any political party work at this time," he said.

Before any decision could be taken on organising as a political force, a number of things would have to be determined such as the level of support they have among Grenadians, Louison said.

There is also a need to determine what group of people to work with, the kinds of programmes to be put together, and "we would want to continue the programmes of the PRG in the interest of the people of this country."

"...If we are to get to work with any team, (then) that team must have a clear commitment... to the memory of Maurice Bishop," he added. Louison stressed that all these questions needed to be answered before supporters of the late prime minister make a decision on whether to form a new party to contest the planned elections. "...I think at the moment we do not have clear answers to them yet. We think that people are still politically confused and that the people of this country have not yet begun to seriously settle down politically. We think that our first duty both as a moral question and as a political question and that our consciousness will not permit us to continue to function, if we do not give the proper respect and rememberance in the name of the October 19th martyrs," he said.

On the question of the "popularity" of the Foundation set up in January, Louison said he felt there is a good response from Grenadians because since its establishment over 7,000 copies of the leaflets explaining the objectives of the coup have been distributed in the country. He also mentioned that over 3,000 copies of posters focusing on Bishop and eleven others killed in the coup have been distributed. Some 2,000 calendars with a picture of Bishop were sold out within a couple days of going on sale at three E.C. dollars (1 EC dollar; 37 cents U.S.) each.

In addition, Louison said the Foundation has been able to sell a substantial amount of its jerseys, books, and other (?photos) on the Grenada revolution, as well as distributing over 4,000 buttons representing people killed in the Army coup.

Celebration Disallowed

FL132215 Bridgetown CANA in English 2115 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] St George's, Grenada, March 13 (CANA) -- It was business as usual in Grenada today with no indication it was the anniversary of an unforgetable date in the island's history.

The English-speaking Caribbean's first coup d'etat on March 13, 1979 gave Grenada its first left-wing government which ruled until last October 19, when it was toppled by the Army. U.S.-led troops invaded six days later to oust the military government.

Government offices, schools, and business places were open following frequent weekend radio announcements that today was a normal working day. During the reign of the deposed New Jewel Movement (NJM) regime, March 13 was a public holiday.

The interim government effectively scuttled plans for a big NJM celebration involving regional performers, when it refused entry to a top Barbadian calypsonian, the Mighty Grynner. The organisers advised other invited Caribbean artists not to come.

Ex-NJM Agriculture Minister George Louison accused the administration of a deliberate attempt to thwart the anniversary activities, but he said they would go on with local musicians. An exhibition highlighting the NJM's workers, including that of its slain leader Maurice Bishop, and poetry reading are planned for tonight at St Paul's Community Centre outside St George's.

In a statement today, Louison said "we believe that March 13 has signified a new beginning for our people and was able to give new aspirations and hope to the Grenadian people as a whole."

The interim government, whose Chairman Nicholas Brathwaite has disapproved of the celebrations, has not made any statement on the decision not to allow entry to the Mighty Grynner.

HAITI

PRESIDENT DUVALIER PROHIBITS USE OF VIOLENCE

PA132030 Paris AFP in Spanish 1523 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 13 Mar (AFP) -- The "use of any form of torture" by members of the Haitian Armed Forces and police was prohibited here today by President Jean-Claude Duvalier.

In letters sent to General Roger Saint Albin, chief of the general staff of the Army, and to Colonel Albert Pierre, chief of the Port-au-Prince police, the Haitian president said that "corporal torture and physical violence should be avoided in arrests."

The president also banned arrests without legal warrants, and ordered that any persons who are arrested must be tried within 48 hours of their arrest.

At the same time, he sent a letter to Max Adolfe, general supervisor of the "Tontons Macoutes," Duvalier's popular militias, prohibiting arrests, the "settling of personal scores," and the hindrance of justice.

Finally, in a letter to Jean Vandal, the new justice minister, the president recommended that Haitain justice be kept free of "all interference" and that the legal requirements of the penal code be strictly observed.

The directives contained in the four letters constitute "necessary and preliminary phases in the construction of a democracy, the necessary foundations that will guarantee that this democracy will last," the government newspaper LE NOVEAU MONDE pointed out today.

According to observers, these directives come at a time when the debate over political pluralism has been reactivated in Haiti, after the return from exile of Gregorie Eugene, a moderate opposition personality, on 22 February.

The same source said that Foreign Minister Jean Robert Estime is currently in Washington for a meeting with several State Department officials.

JAMAICA

BARTER AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH YUGOSLAVIA

FL121950 Bridgetown CANA in English 1548 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, March 12 (CANA) -- Jamaica and Yugoslavia have signed a five-year agreement under which Kingston will barter 450,000 tonnes of alumina for manufactures and other products. The deal requires that Jamaica supply 50,000 tonnes of alumina in 1984 valued at 8.1 million U.S. dollars, for which it will receive construction products for 1,500 low-income houses.

Over the next four years the alumina shipments will double to 100,000 tonnes per year, at a price to be fixed annually.

According to the mining and energy minister, Hugh Hart, the agreement signed over the weekend was under a protocol signed between the two countries in 1971, but which had not been activated. Hart said that Jamaica was seeking to expand trade links with Yugoslavia, and pointed to motor vehicles as a product that Kingston might be looking towards under future exchanges. A Jamaican trade and prospecting mission, headed by Construction Minister Bruce Golding, had visited Belgrade last year, leading to this deal, the agents for which were the Yugoslavian import/export company, BIOPRODUKT, and the Jamaica Commodity Trading Company and the Bauxite and Alumina Trading Company (BATCO).

The agreement will soften the mood in the bauxite/alumina industry here following the recent announcement by Reynolds metal that it was closing down its bauxite mining operations in Jamaica. Both Golding and Hart indicated that Jamaica would like to barter and counter trade bauxite, but stressed that energy problems in that country at the time militated against such a pact.

Jamaica, with the bauxite/alumina market soft as a result of the recent three-year down-turn in the aluminium industry, has been attempting to barter as much of the commodities as possible.

It has exchanged bauxite with the United States for agricultural products and alumina for vehicles with Chrysler Corporation and General Motors.

SEAGA URGES 'MARSHALL PLAN' FOR CARIBBEAN

FL121630 Bridgetown CANA in English 1627 GMT 10 Mar 84

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, March 10 (CANA) -- West Indians have made clear their ideological preferences for centrist democracies, and it is the economic issues with which the region must now contend, according to the Jamaica Prime Minister Edward Seaga.

Seaga, in a speech Friday at the Harvard Centre for International Relations, repeated his call for a Marshall-Plan type package for the Caribbean basin to tackle the area's under-development.

A copy of the prime minister's speech was made available here today by his office.

"The people of the English-speaking Caribbean have, I believe, made their ideological preferences clear -- they prefer centrist democracies. To this extent the ideological question which have dominated Caribbean issues during the past have received from the people an unequivocal answer," Seaga said.

He said the alternative Marxist model in Cuba and Grenada before the political upheavals there last October had failed to deliver the material progress to match the expectations of the majority of people and compensate for the loss of individual freedoms.

Seaga warned, however, that if postponed indefinitely, expectations for a better material life, can, as has happened in the past, lead to the embrace of radical policies.

"There is, therefore, a sense in which the pace of development in the Caribbean affects the political agenda," the Jamaica prime minister said. Seaga, in this context, recalled his advocacy for a Marshall Plan type strategy to confront the problems of under-development in the region. He said that the Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI) that opened the U.S. market to duty-free entry for most Caribbean Basin products was a start.

"It can never be said too frequently that Marshall-type programmes are not aid but enlightened self-interest on the part of their sponsors. It is entirely in the interest of the industrialised nations to promote trade, investment, and growth in developing countries."

In this regard, Seaga pointed to a United Nations study that had estimated that three per cent growth in non-oil developing countries could result in a one per cent growth in the industrialised states.

The Marshall plan was developed as rescue package for battered Western European economies after the Second World War.

MANLEY ON KEEPING REYNOLDS OPERATIONAL

FL082000 Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 2 Mar 84 pp 1, 3

[Text] The president of the People's National Party, Mr Michael Manley, suggested yesterday that the government "mobilise a major international effort immediately to search for new markets and new ways" of keeping the Reynolds bauxite operations going. Mr Manley stated the PNP's position on the decision of the Reynolds Bauxite Mines to cease operations in Jamaica at the party's second monthly People's Forum at the National Arena. He said that the government should explore new partnership operations.

"If it is part of a feasible plan to keep the operations going effectively for what that means in production, revenue, and worker security and opportunity, we suggest that they do not allow any ideological consideration to stand in the way of what the total ownership of the company might be like in the future," he said.

Mr Manley added that the present crisis should not be used as an opportunity for the dismantling of those substantial programmes of national benefits that were negotiated and put in place by the government of the PNP. He said that the party took note of the fact that the Reynolds Company had stated that the bauxite levy was not the cause of their decision to withdraw from Jamaica.

The party did not accept "the crisis of Reynolds" as being the reason for further delays in a settlement of the present negotiations with the IMF and also in a settlement of the budget, as contended by Prime Minister Edward Seaga, he said. "We understand that in his desperation, he will try to seize upon this latest dispute, but our information is that the Reynolds event has nothing to do with the delays which have become chronic and endemic," Mr Manley said.

He said that the party "demanded and insisted" that there be the "most scrupulous" observance of all contractual rights on behalf of the workers who might be affected, and the government was held "absolutely responsible" for this as they were the majority shareholders.

Mr Manley said it was very interesting to observe that the Minister of Mining, Senator Hugh Hart, and Mr Seaga were not able to agree as Mr Seaga stated that the news of the Reynolds pull-out took him by surprise as a result of receiving no notice, while Mr Hart claimed that the news came to him as no surprise. "We do not know whether there was a failure of communication between Mr Seaga and Mr Hart, but at a time when the country is facing the enormous blow materially -- enormous blow to confidence and enormous blow with the national psychology -- I regard it as outrageous that a prime minister and one of his ministers could be able to contradict each other. I regret that I am not able to believe Mr Seaga," he said.

Mr Manley pointed to what he said was "substantial warning" that things were afoot, as last year there was the announcement by Reynolds that they had laid off 100 workers because of serious marketing problems. As the former leader of opposition then, he had called on the prime minister to clarify the Reynolds lay-offs. A statement came from Mr Hart, calling the Reynolds lay-offs "spite and blackmail."

Mr Manley cited another statement from Reynolds, in which the company claimed that it had been discriminated against in the matter arising out of stockpile arrangements entered into with the United States Government. "We can understand that Mr Seaga might be so distracted by his difficulties with the IMF that he can no longer remember the events that take place under his own government," he said.

Mr Manley declared that in the instance that it appeared to be true that the Reynolds Company did not seek a discussion with the government to advise them of its intentions to close formally, "I want to state on behalf of the PNP, that we absolutely disagree and disapprove of that form of conduct."

One of the things that the party had fought for and had been abused were significant changes in the way the world economy was being run, changes described as the New International Economic Order behind which lay a set of very hard and practical specifics which had a bearing on how the world economy worked. Mr Manley said that one of the specifics was a code of conduct to govern the behavior of multinational corporations, under which code "what happened day before yesterday could not happen."

Under the code, one of the specific proposals that had been endorsed by an overwhelming majority of nations of the world was a condition requiring multinational corporations intending to make major changes in their operations affecting a country to give notice to that country, to sit down with that country, and find out what could be worked out before taking action.

"I remember how often I particularly was mocked in this country because one continues to struggle knowing that one day this type of thing can catch you. I hope that thi will be a lesson to the people of Jamaica that the fact that a thing is difficult does not mean that you must not struggle for it," Mr Manley said. Jamaicans should learn that to the extend the "neo-colonialist voices like Mr Seaga's" split the movement in the Third World they gave encouragement to the multinational cooperations.

There was also a lesson to be learned in market diversification he said, pointing to the achievements that the PNP government has made in exploring new markets for bauxite in Venezuela and the Soviet Union, although the administration had been both mocked and abused. The PNP president said that he believed that in every crisis there was opportunity and he felt that there was a time for "energetic and dynamic "action.

BANKERS DISCUSS TRADE PAYMENTS TO BARBADOS

FL132200 Bridgetown CANA in English 1810 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, March 13 (CANA) -- Jamaican and Barbadian Central Bank officials were meeting in Kingston today hoping to iron out kinks in their bilateral payment mechanism and ensure Bridgetown businessmen get paid on time for goods they export here, informed sources said. They said that the Barbadian team arrived Monday and was meeting this morning with top officials from the (Central) Bank of Jamaica, including Deputy Governors Owen Jefferson and C.T. Brown.

Barbados says Jamaica owes it six million dollars (U.S.) for goods shipped here.

The discussions follow hard on a new announcement by the Barbados Central Bank that application for payments for Jamaican exports to that country now require its approval.

Barbadian importers who wish to assure prompt settlement of their liabilities must now submit their applications at least 15 days before payment is due, the Central Bank in Bridgetown said.

The Barbadian move was to enable its Central Bank to match the liability of an importer in that country with a similar sum owed by a Jamaican firm, in order to ensure continued trade between the two countries given Kingston's foreign exchange difficulties.

Following the collapse mid last year of the multilateral clearing facility that financed Caribbean Community (Caricom) trade, bilateral arrangements were put in place under which debts were meted out and deficits covered in foreign exchange.

One trade source here said what appeared to be the problem between Jamaica and Barbados was that since late last year Bridgetown's exports to Kingston had sharpened, with Jamaica building up a deficit. With this country's foreign exchange difficulties, payments, one source said, had lagged by two or three months.

Both Kingston and Bridgetown agree that under the present system a probable solution was for Jamaica to export more so that Barbados built up a greater obligation which could be used to ensure that Jamaican liabilities in that country were cleared.

"We are aware of the problems and we are making efforts for our members to increase trade," said Geoffery Messado, president of the Jamaica Exporters Association (JEA). But Messado said that this was not the total answer to the problems of regional trade.

"The most important thing is to resuscitate some programme such as the multilateral clearing facility," he said. "...at present you almost have to balance trade to ensure that there is trade."

The multilateral clearing facility, which covered all Caricom members, had a 100 million (U.S.) dollar ceiling that covered regional trade, with those countries in deficit settling every six months, instead of the monthly requirement under the present bilateral arrangement.

The scheme collapsed largely because its size had become inadequate to handle the volume of regional trade and because Guyana could not meet its massive debts to the facility.

ST CHRISTOPHER-NEVIS

MEMBERSHIP IN OAS APPROVED BY GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Simmonds Leaves for Washington

FL121703 Bridgetown CANA in English 1720 GMT 11 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Basseterre, St Kitts, March 11 (CANA) -- Prime Minister Dr Kennedy Simmonds left St Kitts and Nevis yesterday for Washington where the Organisation of American States (OAS) will decide on its membership application Monday. Dr Simmonds was accompanied by Ambassador William Herbert and Press and Public Relations Secretary Terence Byron.

Signs Charter

FL131751 Bridgetown CANA in English 1457 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Washington, March 13 (CANA) -- Prime Miniser Kennedy Simmonds stressed the interdependence of nations at a formal ceremony yesterday to admit St Kitts and Nevis as the 32nd member nation of the Organisation of American States (OAS).

The 11th special session of the OAS General Assembly unanimously approved the admission of the Caribbean island, which gained independence from Britain last September 19. Dr Simmons then signed the OAS Charter, the principal requirement for membership in the world's oldest international organisation of nations. He said in an acceptance speech that the twin-island state brought a sense of commitment to the OAS for the development of its own citizens and of people everywhere.

"Our own resources alone cannot at this time enable us to achieve our objectives. We must therefore combine and coordinate our efforts to make the more developed countries of the world recognise that we are all interdependent, and that they themselves cannot sustain significant economic growth if we remain poor and underdeveloped," Simmons said. The problems of this region are economic, they cannot be solved by guns or other instruments of violence. Much of the violence is spawned by widespread economic deprivation. Let us therefore stop treating only the symptoms of the malady, but rather seek to eradicate its cause," Simmonds stated.

Ambassador Appointed

FL132120 Bridgetown CANA in English 1927 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Washington, March 13 (CANA) -- Lawyer Dr William Herbert is the first ambassador of St Kitts and Nevis to the Organisation of American States (OAS). Ambassador Herbert presented his credentials today to the chairman of the OAS Permanent Council, Ambassador Dario Moreira de Castro Alves of Brazil.

Referring to yesterday's unanimous decision by the OAS General Assembly to admit St Kitts and Nevis as the 32nd member state, Herbert stated, "I must say that the situation is such that I am very pleased with the way we were

GOVERNOR REJECTS BRAINWASHING OF SMALL NATIONS

FL100040 Bridgetown CANA in English 2314 GMT 9 Mar 84

[Text] Basseterre, St Kitts, March 9 (CANA) -- St Kitts-Nevis Governor-General Sir Clement Arrindell today spoke out against small countries allowing larger nations to brainwash them. Sir Clement's comments were made as he received the credentials of South Korea's new ambassador to St Kitts-Nevis, (Sun Supchang.) Sir Clement was quoted in a government release as saying: "We won't (allow) all the bigger countries to brainwash us into believing that smallness of size necessarily has its corollary in the level of our aspirations, and in our potential for improving the standard of living of our two peoples."

Ambassador (Chang) had earlier expressed South Korea's support for last October's U.S.-led invasion of Grenada in which St Kitts-Nevis participated. (Chang) said that although diplomatic relations were only established between St Kitts-Nevis and South Korea late last year, the "two countries have since witnessed the steadiest growth of a most cordial and friendly relationship in political, economic, and many other fields."

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

IMPORT RESTRICTIONS AIMED AT PROTECTING INDUSTRY

FL122155 Bridgetown CANA in English 2032 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, March 12 (CANA) -- The Trinidad and Tobago Government has enforced an order making it necessary for importers of a range of items, including electronic equipment, to secure import licences, official sources confirmed today. The order was issued by the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, the Ministry of Information said, following weekend radio reports. Under the new regulations, licences are required for the importation of television sets, radios, turn tables, and portable cassette recorders. Other items named are motor car tires, glazed ceramic tiles, gas stoves, domestic refrigerators, deep freezers, and gramophone recorders.

The announcement on import licence requirements for these items is another in a series of measures being taken by the government of this oil-rich state to protect local industry by toughening up on foreign exchange spending on imports. Last January, Prime Minister George Chambers commented in his 1984 budget speech that government had become "increasingly concerned at the widening imbalance in trade between Trinidad and Tobago and a number of its trading partners."

In measures announced late last year to curb the outflow of foreign exchange on unessential imports, government shifted the authority for approving foreign exchange purchases from the Ministry of Industry and Commerce to the Central Bank. The Central Bank later issued a list of classes of items which it said would be restricted to import quotas. The Bank added that the list could be amended or new items added to it.

In March last year, Trinidad and Tobago, which absorbs the bulk of Caribbean Community (Caricom) manufactured goods, started demanding import licences for Caricom goods which were not on the country's negative list. Caricom manufacturers have complained of problems in getting into the Trinidad and Tobago market since the move, which was taken in retaliation to Jamaica's January 1983 introduction of a two-tiered currency exchange system, which the since been scrapped. Trinidad and Tobago has since retained the import licence.

GUYSUCO SAYS PRODUCTION CONTINUES DESPITE STRIKE

FL121711 Bridgetown CANA in English 2002 GMT 11 Mar 84

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, March 11 (CANA) -- The state-run Guyana Sugar Corporation (Cuysuco), has described the current strike in the sugar industry as "ill-conceived and ill-advised." It has expressed the hope that "good sense will prevail and that normalcy among the small group of workers will be restored."

In a statement last night, Guysuco said "production continues despite the strike," launched by the National Association of Agricultural, Commercial, and Industrial Employees (NAACIE) over a pay claim. "The corporation believes that dialogue should be pursued at all times and at no time have we shut the door in the face of any union in the industry," said Guysuco, which manages the sugar industry. "The action of NAACIE certainly cannot be for the good of the members it represents," Guysuco continued.

"The corporation wishes to clearly state that it will not be intimidated and hopes that in the interest of the nation, the workers themselves and the industry, good sense will prevail and normalcy among the small group of workers will be restored."

Guysuco said that despite the strike the industry produced 7,680 tons, 2,500 tons short of the production target for the week, taking total production for the year to 39,375 tons.

NAACIE called out its 1,200 members on strike last Monday to back demands for the implementation of court-ordered wage increases. Union General Secretary Nankishore Gopaul said the workers are strong in their resolve to continue the strike until "their just demands are met."

GAWU Threatens To Join Strike

FL132140 Bridgetown CANA in English 1944 GMT 13 Mar 84

[By Edwin Ali]

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, March 13 (CANA) -- The Guyana Agricultural Workers Union (GAWU) has threatened to ask its 17,000 members in the sugar industry to join a strike, by colleagues over pay, now into its second week. The GAWU yesterday issued a 72-hour strike ultimatum to the state-run Guyana Sugar Corporation (Guysuco), which runs the vital foreign exchange-earning industry. The union said its members would go on strike unless Guysuco agreed to meet pay hikes which were backed by the Court of Appeal.

The National Association of Agricultural, Commercial, and Industrial Employees (NAACIE) called out its 1,200 members on strike last Monday to back the pay demands.

The GAWU sent a strongly worded letter to Guysuco giving notice of its intension "to take industrial action in the sugar industry in support of the claim by NAACIE for the payment of increments."

"You are aware," said the union, "that since October 4, 1983 NAACIE has waited on your corporation to comply with the Court of Appeal decision, but to date, there has been no communication by Guysuco as to whether or how soon payment will be made."

The sugar industry here has a labour force of 27,000. It is the number two foreign exchange earner, after bauxite.

During a sitting of parliament yesterday, members of NAACIE picketed the building, calling on Guysuco to implement the court decision. Some placards read: "NAACIE demands decent living wages, pay us now," "Justice for all," "Guysuco must implement the decision of the Court of Appeal."

Guysuco has not reacted to the GAWU move. However, it maintained that the operations were continuing and rejected suggestions that it had employed scabs to break the strike. [Words indistinct] operate without the regular workers.

NAACIE general secretary, Nankishore Gopaul, said that the workers "are strong in their resolve to continue the industrial action until their just demands are met by those who profess to have the workers interests [word indistinct]."

Guysuco has described the strike as "ill-conceived and ill-advised." It expressed the hope that "good sense will prevail and that normalcy among the small group of workers will be restored."

PPP STATEMENT MARKS GRENADA PRG CELEBRATION

FL131735 Bridgetown CANA in English 1616 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, March 13 (CANA) -- The Marxist opposition People's Progressive Party (PPP) today said it was confident that the Grenadian people would in due course surmount the setback a U.S.-led invasion caused their leftist revolution "and will eventually restore their national dignity, sovereignty, and territorial integrity."

In a statement marking the fifth anniversary of the 1979 coup that brought Grenada's first leftwing government to power, the PPP complained about "the continuing occupation of that sovereign Caricom (Caribbean Community) nation by United States and Caribbean puppet troops." The party also spoke about "on-going violations of basic human rights in Grenada by the occupation forces, the tremendous setbacks in the national economy, the dramatic rise in unemployment, and the attempts by the Sir Paul Scoon puppet regime to hold hastily organised elections under the supervision of the chief invader...U.S. imperialism."

The party, headed by former Premier Dr Cheddi Jagan, claimed that the U.S. was seeking to turn Grenada into "a U.S. neo-colony" and had "virtually reversed the gains of the revolution achieved by the New Jewel Movement [NJM]." The NJM took power in a coup on March 13, 1979. The People's Revolutionary Government (PRG) it set up was overthrown by the Army last October. But the military junta was quickly unseated in the invasion.

EMIGRE GUYANESE PARTY BEGINS MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

FL121657 Bridgetown CANA in English 1654 GMT 11 Mar 84

[Text] Toronto, March 11 (CANA) -- An emigre Guyanese political organisation recently linked with a plot to overthrow Guyanese President Forbes Burnham has launched a membership drive here.

Amjad Ali, a field officer with the Conservative Party of Guyana [CPG], told CANA his group is seeking support from Guyanese and other concerned persons to join in the move to "return Guyana to democracy."

Operating out of their headquarters in Mississauga, just west of here, officials have lately been holding public demonstrations in this city as a means of making Canadians aware of issues facing Guyana. They also would like to gain support for some of their members and officials presently on trial in connection with the plot which law enforcers in Canada and the United States said last December they had discovered.

"We are not a group of radicals. We are fighting for the return of democracy in our homeland," Steve Ali, another spokesman for the CPG told demonstrators as they formed a picket line outside the American Consulate in Toronto recently. "We are going to remove Burnham -- come what may," he added.

Amjad Ali, observing that most of the crowd were East Indians, emphasized that the party was open to all Guyanese. "I would like you to tell our black brothers that they are welcome to join."

According to its brochures now being circulated in North America, the Conservative Party of Guyana is working to destroy, by any legal and justifiable means, "the influence of politicians who promote communism in Guyana."

The CPG says it intends to open the resources of Guyana to orderly, effective development. It anticipates free trade, full private-sector participation, foreign investment, and the modernisation, expansion, and diversification of Guyana's agricultural and industrial bases.

The party has been picketing outside the U.S. Consulate in Toronto to protest what it says is American financial support for the Burnham government.

Last week in Cleveland, Ohio, five Canadians and an American, charged in connection with the plot to overthrow the Burnham regime, pleaded guilty to weapons charges. The men were arrested in December last year after meetings with U.S. customs agents posing as organised crime figures. The defendants told the agents they were interested in buying weapons for the overthrow of the Guyanese Government and said they wanted to outfit a 20-man assassination squad.

NEWSPAPER VIEWS JAMAICA AS WORSE OFF FINANCIALLY

FL121725 Bridgetown CANA in English 1715 GMT 11 Mar 84

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, March 11 (CANA) -- THE NEW NATION, official organ of Guyana's ruling People's National Congress (PNC), says Jamaica is worse off than financially beleaguered Guyana. "Those who have the ability to read words would have been made to believe that Jamaica was well on the road to recovery following the massive injective of foreign aid from the United States," the paper said in an editorial, which came against the background of deteriorating relations between Guyana and some Caribbean Community (Caricom) member countries.

The paper said: "While we in Guyana were using our scarce foreign earnings to produce food, Jamaica's aid package was used to provide employment for profit-seeking free enterprise persons from North America." Food aid for Jamaican, THE NEW NATION contended, meant sardines and saltfish, things "we refused to buy from overseas more than a decade ago. Unemployment continued to rise and the list of ills continues."

The paper said another Caricom country, Barbados, "must decide to enter into counter trade with Jamaica in order to get some form of payment for goods supplied."

THE NEW NATION said there are many other countries which contend that Guyana is starving but which, in reality, are worse off.

Guyana's relations with Jamaica, Barbados, and some other Caricom countries worsened last October when Guyana criticised their decision to take part in an invasion of Grenada.

ROK SAILOR CREMATED; CAPTAINS PLEAD NOT GUILTY

FL121740 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] The body of a South Korean sailor who was killed in a confrontation with the Guyana Defense Force was cremated with no official explanation as to why he died. The sailor died March 4 when coast guard officers fired at the boat on which he worked for allegedly fishing, with two other trawlers, in Guyana's territorial waters.

The captains of the three Suriname-based South Korean trawlers who were arrested after the shooting incident pleaded not guilty to illegally fishing in Guyanese territorial waters.

POLICE CRACK DOWN ON SMUGGLERS OF SCARCE FOODS

FL131555 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Police in Guyana have stepped up a crackdown on vendors and smugglers of scarce food items. Police raided a house in a village near Georgetown and seized 27 bags of wheat flour, one of the items prohibited from Guyana because the government lacks the foreign exchange to import it officially. The 2-year-old ban on wheat flour has forced some people to resort to buying from smugglers with often harsh retribution from the police.

MINISTRY OFFICIAL EXPLAINS NEW VISA LAW

FL131720 Bridgetown CANA in English 1605 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, March 13 (CANA) -- The Guyana Government today said that a new law requiring citizens from countries including the United States, Canada, and the Netherlands to produce a visa before entering this country was meant to bring the South American republic in line with other nations. The new immigration passport order announced on March 4, Caribbean Community (Caricom) countries and Suriname. [sentence as received]

An official of the Ministry of Home Affairs said: "The new immigration order has been introduced to bring Guyana in line with other countries which have introduced the visa requirement for non-residents entering their countries." The official cited the case of Canada, where until this month Guyanese could have gone without visas.

He said, however, that for countries where the authorities did not insist on Guyanese presenting visas, "local immigration officials will be prepared to reciprocate the action through visa abolition agreements."

The official also said Guyanese who have become naturalised citizens of other countries would not have to present visas at the Timehri International Airport or other recognised ports of entry.

Until this month, United States and Canadian citizens could have entered Guyana with a passport, which automatically entited them to remain in the country for a maximum of six months.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

DECAMPS SEES NO ALTERNATIVE TO IMF AGREEMENT

FL122050 Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Hatuey Decamps, secretary of the presidency, yesterday said that the government of President Salvador Jorge Blanco has no alternative but to reach specific agreements, despite their consequences for the country. He noted that the government will guarantee peace and tranquillity in the event that order is disrupted because of the agreements with the IMF. Decamps said that the government [words indistinct] delegation negotiating with the IMF delegates has no alternative but to send all imported products, including petroleum, to the market.

Regarding agreements reached with the IMF in the first year [of this administration], the secretary of the presidency said that they were violated because the executive branch had to face foreign debt payments at a given time. Unfortunately, the country had to return the funds and the nations that [passage indistinct]. He added that the government of President Salvador Jorge Blanco was burdened with the debt left by previous administrations.

BRIEFS

EXPORT FIGURES -- The Dominican Republic's export figure was $93.3 million for January 1984, an increase of some $40.6 million in comparison with January 1983. Eduardo Tejeda, director of the Dominican Center for Export Development, has said that this increase, which is equivalent to 77 percent, is encouraging and significant. He noted that agricultural exports went from $1.8 million in January 1983 to $2.3 in January 1984. He noted that the estimated figure for overall exports for the entire year is $912 million. [Summary] [Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 2 Mar 84 pp 1, 12 FL]

SURINAME

BOUTERSE SAYS TWO ARRESTED FOR PLANNING INVASION

PM130900 Rotterdam NRC HANDELSBLAD in Dutch 2 Mar 84 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Two Arrests in Suriname, 'Invasion Threatens'"]

[Excerpt] Paramaribo/The Hague, 2 Mar -- Two people have been arrested in Suriname on suspicion of having contacts with a "fairly large group" that has been preparing an invasion of Suriname from neighboring French Guyana since early January, Army leader Desi Bouterse said at a meeting of the People's Militia yesterday. Bouterse gave the names of the suspects as Plein and Brewster. According to Bouterse, the "counterrevolutionaries and mercenaries" in Guyana are under the leadership of former officers who are assisted by four mercenaries. The Army leader gave no details of their nationality. Bouterse did mention, however, the names of former Lieutenant Roy Bottse, who, he said, had joined the group 24 February; of Oord, who was a member of the later Major Roy Horb's bodyguard; of Gobardhan; and of former policeman Rack. In November 1983 three Gobardhan brothers were arrested on sucpicion of organizing a coup. They are still under arrest awaiting trial.